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THE LATE TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION AT CHICAGO.



RATIONALE OF THE NINE-HOURS MOVEMENT.

THE agitation in the labour market is becoming more and more decidedly a movement for shorter hours of labour; and the result of the Newcastle strike has given a very emphatic fillip thereto. Those trades are everywhere asking for the nine-hours day which feel themselves strong enough to do so; and the desire is equally strong where power to enforce it is lacking. The workers in metals generally—miners, puddlers, forgers, engineers, and so forth—constitute strong and well-organised bodies; and so they speak plainly out, and have to be listened to. But there are other orders of toilers—such as guards, porters, and other railway employés (not being engine-drivers or firemen), together with that much-enduring race, the agricultural labourers—who, though numerous, are not organised; and so they are compelled to let “I would” wait upon “I dare not,” in formulating any demand on this matter of shorter working hours, for it is pretty well understood that the men belonging to those classes of workers who should first moot the question would very soon find themselves “unattached,” and consequently breadless. But, like Sam Lover’s amorous fish, if they “don’t speak, they wish;” and their wishes are by no means either illegitimate or unwarrantable.

By-the-way, this system of terrorism—or, to put it mildly, repression of discontent—exercised by employers in certain branches of industry, be they railway managers and directors, farmers, or what not, constitutes the best possible justification for combinations among workmen; for, were the latter free to remonstrate individually, they neither need, nor would, have recourse to associated action. If, therefore, trades unions be evil things, their real originators are those employers who first overwork their servants and then deny them the privilege of individual remonstrance by holding out a threat of dismissal, expressed or implied. When such terrorism prevails, redress must come from without: the men must either combine, so as to bring the force of numbers to bear, and thus initiate strikes, or disinterested parties must expose the hardships inflicted, and remonstrate on behalf of those who dare not do it for themselves. Canon Girdlestone has played the last-named part on behalf of the miserably-paid peasants of Devon and Dorset, and has reaped the hatred of the landowners and farmers of those regions as his reward; while Mr. Bass, M.P., has essayed a similar rôle on the part of railway employés, especially those engaged on the Midland Company’s system, and, we suspect, will find that he has achieved a like guerdon. All honour, however, to both these gentlemen for their courage and disinterestedness in constituting themselves the champions of those who dare not champion themselves; and anything but honour to those who have rendered such championship necessary.

Reverting to the nine-hours movement, it is worth while inquiring why the movement for reduction of working hours is so general—whence arises this fond désir, this longing after lighter toil; and why it is desirable that it should be successful. It may, we think, be accepted as a fact that those Englishmen who work at all toll both too long and too closely. We are not now speaking merely of hand-workers—physical toilers; we are thinking of intellectual labourers as well. From Cabinet Ministers downwards, Englishmen put far too severe a strain upon their powers. They work too much and too incessantly; and perhaps this is true of professional men—mind-workers—in as great, if not a greater, degree than of hand-workers. As a rule, however, the former can better protect themselves than the latter; they have the matter more under their own control; and have superior opportunities of seeking relaxation when they feel relaxation to be necessary. But to both toilers with the brain and toilers with the hand the results of overwork are baneful; and we are inclined to think that it is a consciousness of this—the product, perhaps, more of instinct than of reasoning—that has prompted the almost universal cry for shorter hours on the part of our artisan classes. There is a limit to the powers of endurance of the human system. Long-protracted toil, by over-taxing a man’s energies, deteriorates his stamina, mental and physical. He becomes prematurely aged and feeble; and, what is more deplorable still, he transmits his deterioration to his children, who, in turn, transmit it in an increased ratio to their children; and so the baneful process goes on from generation to generation, till national decrepitude is the result. The physical consequences are more easily observed and gauged than are the mental; but both are sure, if slow in coming. The conditions under which men work may accelerate or retard the process; but over-exertion, under any circumstances, exhausts, and therefore deteriorates, the powers of men as surely as moderate and reasonable exercise of those powers strengthens and improves them. Workers in the fields, and consequently in pure air, suffer less and decline in physical power more slowly than do toilers in the fetid, impure, and exhausted atmosphere of factories. Hence it is that the dwellers and toilers in cities are less vigorous of body than are the denizens of the country. But we believe it is a well-ascertained fact that the present generation of Englishmen, both urban and rural, are, on the whole, both smaller and less muscular in frame than were their forefathers; and, as the progress in decline has been distinctly marked in the past, we may expect it to be still more marked in the future, if the causes producing it continue in operation in the same or even in an approximate degree. One fact alone is sufficient to prove that a decline in physique has taken place among Englishmen of late years; and that is, that our military authorities have been compelled from time to time to lower the standard of stature for recruits till we believe it is now some inch or two

less than it was a generation ago. And why has this been necessary? Simply because men of the old stature can no longer be obtained in sufficient numbers; and the reason for that, again, is, and can only be, because men, relatively to numbers, do not boast the same inches as of old. It is likewise a fact, we believe, that a larger number of recruits are now rejected on account of physical defects than was formerly the case.

To what causes can we attribute this diminution in the stature and decline in physical soundness of the Englishmen of these days, save to over-work, and over-work under increasingly unfavourable conditions? And is it not high time that some effort were made to counteract the influences at work in producing these most undesirable effects? Much is being done in these times to promote education among the masses. That is well, for it is good to develop and sharpen the intellects of the people; but while their minds are cared for their bodies should not be neglected. Hence we hail with satisfaction any movement that tends to shorten the hours of labour to the general community; that will help in hindering the process of exhaustion, and consequent deterioration, of future generations of our countrymen and countrywomen—for what we have said of men is equally true of women; and that, finally, will obviate that condition of national decrepitude to which we seem surely, if slowly, tending. The general cry for a reduction in the hours of labour now current is such a movement, and the consciousness of its necessity is what we take the liberty to call the rationale of the nine-hours movement. All who join in that cry may not understand its real source; some—probably many—may have other and more selfish objects in view than the good of the community and the preservation of the stamina of their descendants; but if the results, even of selfishness, be beneficial we care not to scan motives too closely; and we shall heartily rejoice when the nine-hours day shall become the rule in this country, and not, as at present, the exception, for in that restriction of toil we hope to find an antidote for the physical degeneration so generally observable among us.

It is not desirable, perhaps, to import sentimental considerations into a question of this sort; so we will not specially insist upon the fact that shorter hours of work will afford more time for mental cultivation and for the performance of social duties and the enjoyment of domestic pleasures,—though these are matters not unworthy of attention. But there is one thing upon which we do insist most earnestly—a plea which ought to enlist, on the side of the advocates of short working hours, the sympathies of those who are striving (possibly with more zeal than wisdom) to elevate the moral condition and to check the intemperate habits of the working classes—and that thing is, that the exhaustion consequent upon over toil creates a craving for stimulants as temporary restoratives, and so induces (as much as, if not more than, anything else) those drinking habits to which our working population is greatly too prone. Remove the causes—over-work and consequent exhaustion—and the effects—a craving for stimulating restoratives and consequent drunkenness—will cease. In this way, better than by prohibitory liquor laws, will the friends of soberness effect their object; and we therefore call upon them for help in promoting the nine-hours movement.

It will be observed that in the foregoing remarks we have dealt exclusively with the question of working hours, and have said not a word about the rate of wages. That, though a kindred, is not necessarily an identical topic, and may therefore be left for discussion on another occasion.

THE DISASTER AT CHICAGO.

THERE seems to have been no exaggeration in the accounts received last week as to the destruction caused by the terrible fire in Chicago. According to American telegrams, not a single business house, bank, insurance office, hotel, or newspaper establishment in the southern division of Chicago was left standing; while the entire business portions of the north side and part of the west were also consumed. The gas-works, as well as the water-works, had been destroyed. Great numbers of the people were huddled together like animals, and many were dying from exposure and hunger. Many persons, it is said, who were rich a few days ago are now paupers. It is estimated that 70,000 destitute people will have to be supported all the winter. There is, however, a cheering and hopeful side to the picture. Tents and stores were being served out, and supplies in great abundance were arriving. Munificent contributions had been raised in many parts of the Union, and Canada was actively manifesting her sympathy with the host of sufferers. Moreover, in the midst of all the gloom and chaos resulting from the conflagration the rebuilding of the city had already commenced.

On this side of the Atlantic the sympathy excited by the disaster is universal. Up to Wednesday evening the subscriptions received at the Mansion House amounted to about £30,000, and large sums are coming in daily. The Americans resident in London have opened a fund of their own, and all over the three kingdoms meetings have been held, and subscriptions opened, the appeal being everywhere liberally responded to. On the Continent, too, contributions are being given freely. The Empress Augusta has informed the Chicago Relief Committee of Berlin that, in grateful recollection of the sympathy shown by America during the late war, 1000 dols. has been placed to their account for the sufferers through the fire. A sum of 500 thalers has also been subscribed by the Crown Prince and Princess of Prussia to the fund, in recognition of the sympathy for Germany displayed by the United States during the late war. In Paris a committee has been formed for the purpose of aiding the sufferers; and the address which it has published says, that although France is very poor, she earnestly desires to make some return to the United States for its generosity to her after the siege of Paris.

It is a singular fact that only eight days before the great Chicago fire one of the largest warehouses in that city, described as “the Great Burlington Warehouse,” was destroyed, with all its contents, the total loss being estimated at 650,000 dols. The scene seems to have been a sort of anticipatory picture of the conflagration which was about to swallow up such a vast accumulation of wealth.

Readers will thank us for mentioning that they can realise their conceptions of the destruction at Chicago by consulting a small map of the city, showing the burned portion, just issued by Messrs. Bacon, price sixpence,

Foreign Intelligence.**FRANCE.**

M. Casimir Perier, the new Minister of the Interior, has issued a circular to the Prefects on assuming the office of Minister of the Interior. He points out that the actual form of government in France demands absolute respect for the laws of the Republic and enforces the rigorous repression of all attacks against the State, which, he says, put in peril those things which are sacred to every-one—namely, public peace and labour.

A general tabular statement of the elections to the Councils-General, with the exception of eight Departments, gives 225 Legitimists, 119 Bonapartists, 1200 Liberal Conservatives, 735 Republicans, and 222 Radicals.

According to a Paris telegram, it has been ascertained from a positive source that the French Government itself intends to abandon the idea of a duty of 20 per cent upon raw materials. This resolution will naturally involve the abandonment of a compensatory duty upon raw materials imported from abroad.

The following is a summary of the two conventions signed, on the 12th inst., by Prince Bismarck, Count Armin, and M. Pouyer-Quertier, on the subject of the evacuation of more French departments, and the position which Alsace and Lorraine will occupy with regard to import and export duties. These conventions are by special agreement declared inseparable, so that the efficacy of one will be conditional upon the confirmation of the other. The first convention provides for the evacuation of the departments of the Aisne, Aube, Côte d’Or, Haute Somme, Doubs, and Jura, and the reduction of the army of occupation to 50,000 men within fifteen days after the ratification of the convention. Germany dispenses with the bankers’ guarantee, and France agrees to pay the fourth half milliard, as well as 150,000,000 francs interest, in fortnightly instalments of 80,000,000 francs each, from Jan. 15 to May 1, 1872. In case of non-payment the evacuated territory, which remains neutral in military respects, would be reoccupied. France is only allowed to retain a force in these provinces sufficient for the maintenance of order. The convention with regard to the Alsace and Lorraine customs duties provides that goods manufactured in Alsace and Lorraine will be admitted duty free into France from Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 1871, and will be admitted on a payment of 25 per cent of the duty until June 30, 1872, and on payment of 50 per cent until Dec. 31, 1872. Alimentary articles are excluded from the provision for the convention. In case France imposes new taxes upon raw material and dyestuffs used in the preparation of Alsace and Lorraine manufactures, a corresponding increase of duty may be levied. French manufactures which are perfected in Alsace and Lorraine will be admitted duty free. These goods being re-exported into France will pay a proportionate duty. French articles used in Alsace and Lorraine for finishing manufactures will be duty free until Dec. 31, 1871. They will be subject to 25 per cent of the ordinary duty until June 30, 1872, and to 50 per cent until Dec. 31, 1872. Until this convention comes into force the duties paid upon articles therein referred to will be refunded. In order to prevent fraud courts of equity and chambers of commerce will be established in Alsace and Lorraine. Contracts for the delivery of goods concluded before or during the war will share in the immunity from duty granted by this convention. The same applies to French goods which were ordered during the same periods in France. Germany cedes the parishes of Rueil-les-Seaux and Raon-sur-Plaine, as well as the parish of Igney and part of the district of Avricourt. The Franco-German Treaty respecting trademarks again comes into operation. The conventions are to be ratified before the end of October.

M. de Choiseul will be replaced as Minister in Italy by M. Ernest Picard. The appointment of M. Guizot to Athens is settled, but not M. Jules Ferry’s appointment, the Government in this giving way before the vehement opposition of public opinion.

The Government has given instructions that Prince Napoleon, who has been elected to the Council-General of Corsica, shall be permitted to pass freely through France to that island. Official despatches have been received from Corsica at the Ministry of the Interior stating that cries of “Vive l’Empereur!” were raised in two villages during the electoral tour of M. Conti, who in his speeches affirmed his devotion to the Imperial dynasty. These manifestations, however, do not cause any uneasiness, and the measures taken by the Government are only measures of precaution. These measures consist in the landing of a battalion of soldiers and sailors in Corsica; the dispatch of M. Charles Ferry, Prefect of the Seine et Oise, with full powers to repress all disorders; and a notification that, should disturbances occur, vigorous steps will be adopted.

The monetary crisis in Paris has reached such a point that scarcely anyone will give change for notes, and in many cafés and shops notices are posted that change cannot be given. The inconvenience is felt universally, and it is feared that it will soon be difficult to make the most ordinary purchases.

The Fine Arts Committee, sitting under the presidency of the Prefect of the Seine, has approved a report of M. Perrin recommending the reconstruction of the Hotel de Ville with very little variation. The façade of the sixteenth century is to be scrupulously reproduced, and to be thrown into greater relief by some changes in the surrounding architecture, which dated from 1836. It is estimated that the cost of restoration will be fifteen millions of francs. The Municipal Council will be forthwith consulted on the project, and is thought likely to adopt it, but with the stipulation that the expense must be spread over a period of five years.

M. Alphand, who has resumed the post of director of public gardens, in which he was temporarily replaced by the unfortunate Pipe-en-Bois, promises to re-plant the Bois de Boulogne on a grand scale. He has made arrangements to bring from Fontainebleau, Senart, and other State forests, no less than 15,000 trees from fifteen to twenty years old, which, thanks to the successful system of transplanting introduced by a Scotch gardener, may soon be expected to look as flourishing as if they had never been moved.

SPAIN.

Party spirit is running very high at Madrid, and rival manifestoes are the order of the day. The manifesto of Señor Sagasta’s partisans, bearing sixty-one signatures, acknowledges the natural rights of man and a national Sovereignty with the dynasty of Savoy, and declares itself opposed to the International Society. The partisans of Señor Zorrilla have also issued their manifesto. It insists on the necessity of establishing two powerful Constitutional parties—Reformers and Conservatives—slightly alludes to the recent difficulties, and concludes by declaring that the programme of the Zorrillists is to establish liberty and to consolidate the dynasty of Savoy. The document is signed by forty-one senators and one hundred deputies. A large meeting of Republicans, under the presidency of Señor Orenga, was held on Sunday, and passed a resolution of unremitting and unrelenting opposition to every Government that did not accept the Republican faith. Sympathy with the International Society was also declared. Most of the speeches were of the most violent character.

The Spanish troops have silenced the batteries of the insurgents at Melilla.

ITALY.

The opening of the Parliament is to take place in the second fortnight in November.

GERMANY.

A very important statement on the Church question was made in the Bavarian Chamber of Deputies, last Saturday, by the Minister of Public Worship. He said that the Government reserved to the State the right of modifying the ecclesiastical laws of the State if the Church changes its own principle on which the former connection existing between Church and State had rested. The Catholic Church had been altered by the doctrine of infallibility, and the decisions of the Council were dangerous to the State. He declared that the Government had determined to allow

the fullest protection, as based upon the laws of the country, to all those Catholics belonging to the State who do not accept the dogma of infallibility, and, so far as concerns their property, to protect them in all their honestly-acquired rights and positions. The Government recognises the right of parents to bring up their children in what faith they please. The Old Catholic community will be regarded by the Government as Catholic, and it has decided to ward off all attacks upon the rights of the State by every constitutional means in its power.

AUSTRIA.

There has been an attempted rising in the Ogliner military frontier district, which, however, has been suppressed, and the rioters dispersed by the native frontier troops, who were called out for the purpose. The leaders, Rakics and Kraternick, were killed, and others made prisoners. A few wounded fled into the hills. The places Rackeritz and Pravenitz were occupied by the military. Seditious placards have been posted in Agram, but the population remains perfectly tranquil.

TURKEY.

A telegram from Constantinople states that the cholera has reappeared at the village of Haskend, and that sixty persons have died, including ten Englishmen.

The *Impartial of Smyrna* publishes a letter from Bagdad announcing that the pressure of the famine has driven the people into insurrection, and that the insurgents are masters of Maged and Shiraz.

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

The *Habeas Corpus Act* has been suspended in nine counties of South Carolina, where the Ku-Klux bands continue to defy the law.

An unparalleled drought has prevailed in the north-western States during many weeks, and extensive forest fires have consequently raged in Michigan and Wisconsin. Many square miles of territory have been burnt over and villages destroyed. The entire town of Manistre, in Michigan, has been burned. Two hundred houses and six mills have been burnt, and the loss is estimated at 1,250,000 dollars. In Wisconsin also four villages on the Green Bay River have been burnt, with a fearful loss of life. The inhabitants were surrounded by the flames, and 150 fugitives were burnt alive in a barn. Hundreds of persons were driven into the river, and altogether 500 people are said to have perished. A New York telegram says it is estimated that the fires in Wisconsin and Michigan have altogether destroyed 100,000,000 dollars worth of property and from 1000 to 2000 lives. A large portion of the flourishing Canadian town of Windsor, opposite Detroit, has also been consumed by fire. The heartrending details of these calamities add to the excitement caused by the Chicago fire.

There has been a Fenian movement on the Canadian frontier. A telegram, dated, Toronto, Oct. 12, says that the Government had received information that a large body of Fenians under General O'Neil had crossed the border at Pembina, and seized the Canadian Customs House and Hudson's Bay post. They were attacked and dispersed by the American troops, and General O'Neil was made prisoner. A larger body of Fenians was reported to have crossed at St. Joe. The people of Manitoba were under arms, and the Canadian Government are sending troops to Manitoba, via Thunder Bay, to reinforce the local companies. The Fenians captured at Pembina have been released, on the ground that the offence with which they were charged was committed on British territory. O'Donohue, who was concerned in the Red River insurrection, and who had taken to flight, is said to have been captured by loyal half-breeds on American territory, and given up by them to the United States officials. He has been discharged with the others. The boundary line has hitherto been declared by Americans to be north of the Hudson Bay post.

The American schooner Horton, which had been seized by the Dominion authorities for violation of the fishery laws, was, on the night of the 8th, cut out at Guysborough, Nova Scotia, by a party supposed to consist of American fishermen. It is reported that a British war-sloop is cruising in Gloucester Bay, Massachusetts, to intercept the expected arrival of the Horton, and that the President has ordered a frigate from Boston to Gloucester in response to an appeal from the collector of Gloucester. The Horton has since arrived at Gloucester. It is reported that the United States authorities will deliver the vessel to the Government of the Dominion, but will prevent her seizure in the United States waters.

Lord Lisgar and President Grant have inaugurated the European North American Railway at Bangor. The President congratulated all on the completion of the enterprise, which he hoped would promote brotherly feeling between the two peoples. Lord Lisgar said that the work was a new tie of union, and that he felt all bitterness was fast dissolving, and hoped old animosities had been buried by the Treaty of Washington, which was equally an honour to the Administration of President Grant and also to that of Mr. Gladstone.

MEXICO.

Telegrams received from Mexico state that President Juarez has been re-elected President by 108 votes. The Opposition did not vote.

INDIA.

Aslam Khan has been murdered in prison at Cabul by two of his brothers, thus removing the Ameer's great domestic difficulty. There is clear proof that Aslam Khan murdered Feramorz, but an open trial has evidently been dreaded.

MR. O. TREVELYAN, M.P., ON THE EDUCATION ACT.—Mr. Trevelyan, M.P., in addressing a gathering at Galashiels, made a brief reference to the circumstances under which the Government Education Bill of 1870 became law. The whole impulse of that great wave of enthusiasm, which would have carried a Ministry bent on passing a really national scheme over every obstacle, was wasted and frittered away. The so-called "mutual concessions" were all real on the one side, all nominal on the other; and the English educational system turned out to be little more, and nothing less, than a gigantic increase in the public endowments of the Church of England.

SINGULAR AND FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Monday evening a travelling crane was sent to the Mary-hill station of the North British Railway, near Glasgow, to lift a truck which had run off the line, and the express from Helensburgh came up at full speed while the jib of the crane was hanging over the up-line, the pointsman having signalled all clear. The engine struck the jib, and a hole was made in the boiler, while the sides of a third and a first class carriage next to the engine were torn away. A young woman, name unknown, and a boy eight years old were killed on the spot, and fifteen persons were injured. The pointsman has been apprehended.

GAMBETTA'S GENERALS AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.—Any thing but unity of feeling in the French army seems likely to result from the labours of the committee on military grades of which General Charnier is president. The *Ordre* publishes a letter to the Minister from a Bonapartist staff officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Castex, still in actual service, roundly laying down the position that discipline in the army will be impossible unless "all" the commissions granted by the Government of Sept. 4 are cancelled. The writer of this letter is evidently for a pronunciamento, and I think General de Cissey can hardly fail to take notice of his violation of the rule which prohibits officers on active service from writing to the papers against their superiors. While Colonel Castex is not satisfied with the many instances of generals of division being reduced to the rank of brigadiers, and brigadier-generals to that of colonel, the victims of the commission are naturally furious. General Cremer, one of Gambetta's generals, who has been reduced to the rank of chef d'escadron, retires from the army in disgust, and has written the following letter to General de Cissey:—"Monsieur le Ministre, I have just received the letter from your office notifying to me the decision of the Commission for the Revision of Grades. So much generosity touches me, and I cannot better show my sense of it than by alleviating the State charges so far as I can. I have therefore the honour to send you my resignation, and remain contented after fifteen years' service with no other reward than the confiscation of my property, the exile of my father, the death in battle of my brother, and the annexation to Germany of my native province. Such an aggrandizement of good fortune makes me fear the future which the behests of the commission leave before me, and I prefer to wait as a simple citizen the opportunity to recommend the war against the Prussians.—Accept, &c., CREMER, an annexed Lorrainer and an ex-Gambetta General."

OPENING OF THE GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

THE German Reichstag was opened at one o'clock on Monday by the Emperor in person. His Imperial Majesty spoke as follows:—

"Honoured Gentlemen,—When I greeted you in March of the present year for the first time, the preparatory labours for the regular legislation had suffered delays and interruptions in consequence of the war. Your active co-operation was especially claimed for those questions which were directly evoked by the new organisation of Germany. At the present time the regulation of the Imperial Budget will be your principal task. The question is, therefore, to relieve the separate federal States from the pecuniary advances which they have hitherto had to bear for Imperial objects, by the employment of a portion of those means for which we are indebted to our successes in the war, and thus to establish normal relations between the Budget of the Empire and those of its members. Our object is to introduce into the Budget of the Empire the financial estimates of the various territories acquired by Germany without destroying that portion of their system which they previously possessed in common with the Empire, or which have by the latter been granted to them. Our object is to care that the social position of the officials of the Empire should correspond with the requirements necessarily demanded by the interest of the State.

"I had hoped that we should have been able to lay before you a Budget for the administration of the German army, such as would suffice for its lasting wants; but the extent to which the labours caused by the war have engaged all the resources of the Administration even beyond the duration of the war, together with the reorganisation now in course of execution of a portion of the army, have unfortunately prevented the timely preparation of this Budget. I am, therefore, compelled to claim your consent to allow the time of transition for the Military Budget, fixed by the Constitution to extend to the end of this year, to be still further extended to the coming year.

"The Budget to be submitted to you requires no higher contributions for Imperial objects from the federal States than are now in force.

"The Budget for the year 1870 has, notwithstanding the effects of the war, left a surplus, for the employment of which a bill will be submitted to you.

"The organisation of the coinage which the Constitution has assigned to the empire has for years engaged the attention of the Government and excited the interest of the people. I have considered the time to have arrived for laying the foundation of this organisation, since it has become possible to effect a regulation of the coinage which shall comprise the whole of Germany, and the economical situation for effecting this has never presented a more favourable opportunity than the present. The Federal Council is engaged with the discussion of a bill the first object of which will be the creation of a gold coin fitted for general circulation, and which shall lay down the basis of a common German system of coinage.

"To secure a line of railway connection between Germany and Italy through Switzerland, which was already last year voted by the North German Reichstag, will also form a subject for your discussion. The Governments and the popular representative Assemblies both of Italy and Switzerland have readily supported the execution of this great undertaking. I am certain that the economical and political interests therewith connected will be as much cared for by the German Governments and the German Reichstag as they have been by the two other countries.

"The grant of an equitable compensation for the restrictions, to which the landed property required for the construction of new and extended fortifications must be submitted, has again been made a subject of discussion by the federal Governments. The result of this in the shape of a bill will be submitted to you. I hope also that we shall be able to submit to you a bill concerning the Imperial officials.

"The war indemnity up to the present paid by France, and that which is to be paid on the first month of the coming year, will be employed to a great extent for the redemption of the loans contracted by the North German Confederation to carry on the war. A portion of these loans has already been redeemed, or notice has been given that such will take place. One portion requires your sanction, and a bill will be brought in to that effect.

"Relying upon a steady continuous development of the internal condition of France as regards its pacification and consolidation, I have considered it practicable to permit the evacuation of the departments to take place immediately, the occupation of which, according to the terms of peace, was to have lasted until next May.

"The securities to be held in lieu of the relinquished guarantees you will learn from the agreement concluded on that subject on the 12th of this month, together with which a convention, in reference to the concessions which will be made by Germany for the alleviation to be secured to the industry of Alsace and Lorraine, will be submitted to you for examination and constitutional sanction.

"As regards foreign politics, I have been able to devote my attention to the development and consolidation of the peace just concluded with France, the more entirely since the relations with all foreign Governments are peaceful, and supported by mutual goodwill. My endeavours, therefore, aim to strengthen the well-grounded confidence that the new German Empire will be a reliable shield of peace. In this connection it is a specially important, and to me also a specially welcome, task to entertain, with the immediate neighbouring States of Germany and the Sovereigns of the powerful Empires which directly border on it, from the Baltic to the Lake of Constance, friendly relations of such a kind that their reality shall be undoubted in the public opinion of every country. The thought that the meetings which I had this summer with the Monarchs of these neighbouring Empires, who are personally so closely connected with me, may, by strengthening public confidence in the peaceful future of Europe, further its realisation, is specially pleasing to my heart.

"The German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Imperial State are by their geographical position and their historical development so forcibly and in so manifold a manner called upon to entertain friendly and neighbourly relations with each other that the fact of these relations having ceased to be troubled by the reminiscence of conflicts which were the undesirable inheritance of the last thousand years will be received by the entire German nation with sincere satisfaction.

"The hearty reception which I, as representative of this empire, recently received in every part of the great Fatherland, and which has filled me with joyful satisfaction—but above all, with thanks to God for the blessings which will in future not fail our constant and honest endeavours—is a pledge that such satisfaction will, in view of the complete development of the German Empire, be felt by the great majority of the nation."

Both on entering and leaving the House, his Majesty was enthusiastically cheered. At the reading of the passage which alludes to the reconciliation with Austria, the Emperor was interrupted by applause. At the close of the speech the Chancellor of the Empire, Prince Bismarck, declared the German Parliament opened.

In the subsequent sitting Dr. Simson provisionally assumed the presidency. Several bills were introduced by the Government. Amongst them are a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the North German Confederation, together with a bill relating to the application of the surplus; a bill providing for the creation of a war fund for the empire; a bill authorising the repayment of the loan issued by virtue of the law of July 21, 1870; and new regulations for the control of the Budget of the Empire. Sufficient members have not arrived to form a quorum.

THE CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS has received a donation of one hundred guineas from the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers.

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE, PARIS.

THERE are still difficulties in Paris not altogether unconnected with the destruction of M. Thiers's house by the Communists. It is uncertain where the head of the Republic is to find a residence in the capital, uncontaminated by the history of the Empire, and yet of such official dignity as befits the Presidential palace. The Elysée has been proposed, but it is inodorous in Republican nostrils, because there were held certain orgies that belong to a time long past, and thence, on that December night, twenty years ago, issued the agents of the coup-d'état. At length it has been decided that M. Thiers shall occupy the grand hotel in the Quai d'Orsay during the sixty days that he must spend officially in Paris. It would almost seem as though there had been a dearth of public buildings since the destruction by the Commune, and yet the catalogue of houses burnt included only a few of the great edifices of the capital. The residence of the President has not been the only difficulty on this subject, however, for the grand new Opera House, of which we gave some detailed description before the breaking out of the war, has been left unfinished until now, when it is completed, and arrangements are made for reopening it with fresh performances. We have already published an illustration of the exterior of this fine building, and our Engraving this week represents the outer lobby or promenade, which is a good example of the rich decoration and architectural display which distinguish the whole edifice. To say that the grand theatre belongs to any particular order would be erroneous, as it is a composite of the Oriental and barley-sugar styles, superseded by imperfect Grecian recollections. It is something, however, not only to complete the building, which is not yet quite accomplished, but to reconstitute the enterprise after such vicissitudes as have been suffered in Paris. Last September the whole place was closed by the police, and was afterwards converted into an ambulance; and it is scarcely to be wondered at that this should have made a legal difficulty on the subject of the privileges originally granted to the lessee, who has just obtained a decree from a court of law setting aside the lease by which he was bound. Of course he was utterly deprived of the advantages for which he had contracted, and had a sound plea for being released. The agreement between the present director of the Opera-House and the Minister of Fine Arts includes a reduced tax of 6 per cent on the receipts, but with a greater number of free orders for the Government department. The Committee of Dramatic Authors have received notice that the tax will be the same for all the other theatres. Various changes have been made in the orchestra, M. Bizet being the leading singer in place of M. Vauthrol. There are 727 names inscribed as being engaged in the establishment, and in a short time the performances will commence, even though every portion of the building may not be completed.

ON THE BEACH AT BOULOGNE.

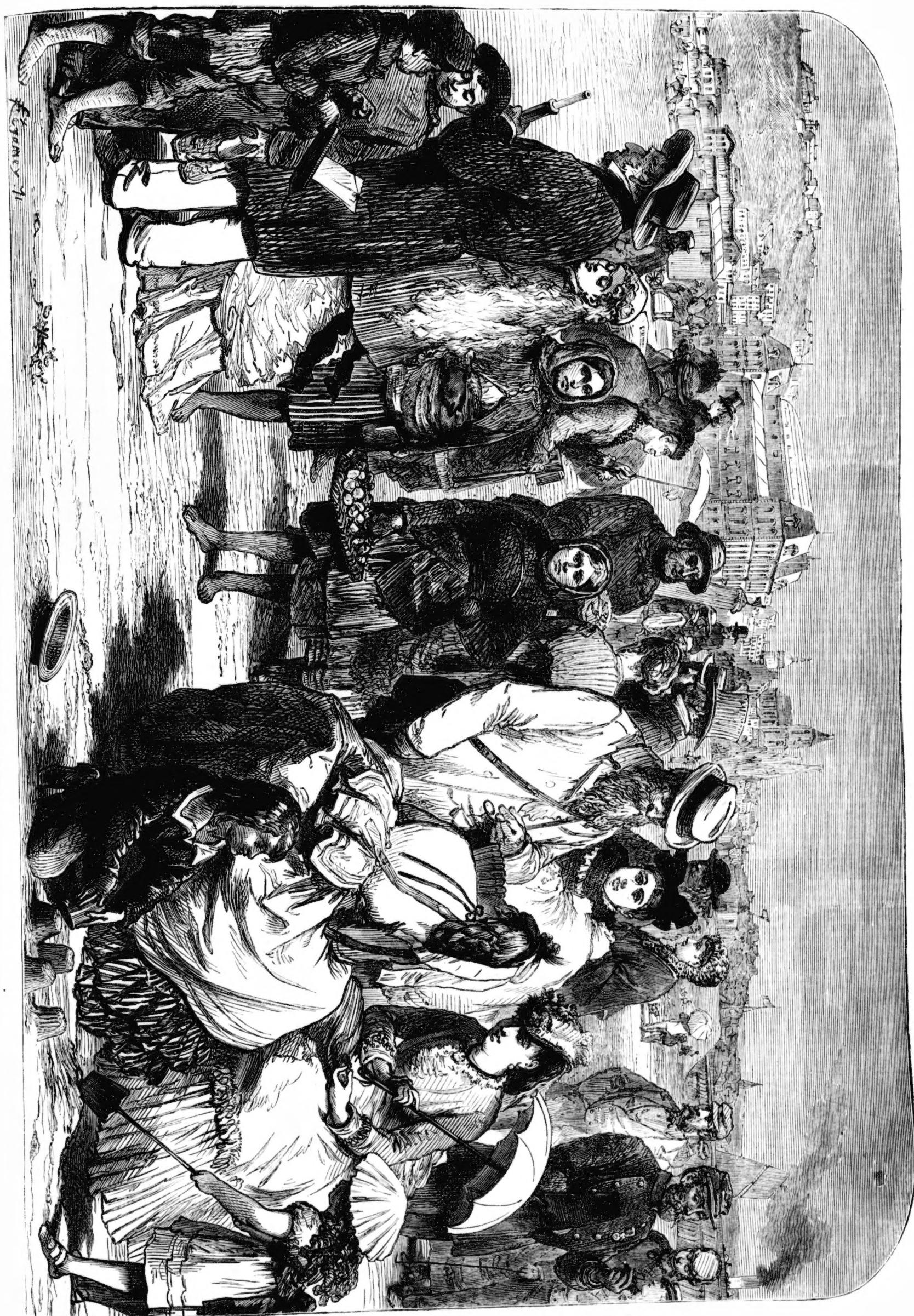
In spite of the terrible events that have happened in France this year, Boulogne has had its share of English visitors; indeed, so large a share that it may be still regarded as an English watering-place provided for by French restaurateurs and hotel and lodging-house keepers, made picturesque by French buildings, French fisherwomen, French portières, French bonnes, and certain pleasant French modes of living. In all these things the English visitors are gainers; and hitherto it has often been found more pleasant, as well as more economical, to cross the narrow strip of sea and make a summer holiday on the opposite coast than to submit to the dreary inconveniences of English seaside lodgings, the exorbitant demands of English hotel-keepers (who never will understand the system of economical inclusive charges), and the strange insular antipathies to the table-d'hôte and the following coffee and music at a fixed price, by which alone a number of people in one big hotel can be provided for at a cheap rate. In the old days the English colony at Boulogne had a shady reputation at home. The genuine middle-class Briton never lightly crossed the Channel, and could not understand such a dithering over seas except to escape from some threatened penalty on English soil. There were many excuses for such an opinion. Society at Boulogne was mixed, and a good deal of it was what is now called "shy," not bashful—the word has lost that significance in modern parlance—but open to suspicion. Men were met there who were a good deal buttoned up. Paper collars were not invented, and the new bankruptcy laws had not virtually superseded imprisonment for debt; so that there was much rusticating at Boulogne till temporary difficulties had blown over, and Mr. Sloman's sleuth-hounds ceased to run in certain bailiwicks. There were men and women who were haggard and hollow-eyed, and looked as though a constant watch for small remittances had set their faces into a cunning and yet shrinking expectancy. Some there were who, having "run over just for a few days," stayed on and on at some marvellously-cheap cabaret, and lived, as it were, on pence—lived for years and until letters and newspapers reached them seldom or never. They would stand on that beach or on the quay and look, with strange, dreamy, sorrowful eyes, across the Channel towards the other shore that seemed to them, perhaps, like some land of dreams, difficult to realize; and then one day there would come a newspaper or a message, or, perhaps, a living messenger, and, as a man steals out of prison, and is too fearful at once to set up a shout and make merry, so they stole away, and were only heard of when they had, as it were, cast their slough of debt and outlived their "shyness," so that those who had noticed them in exile could scarcely recognise them for the same people, and made no allusions lest there should be some awkward mistake. There is no need to describe the kind of colony that belonged to Boulogne in the days when Thackeray first wrote. That inimitable master has painted the people there, and painted the place too, with a fine touch of his caustic brush; but things have altered since, and among the number of visitors who throng the pleasant beach in summer there are comparatively few refugees of Cursitor-street, while embezzling clerks, or secretaries who have left their foundering companies to friendly wreckers in the guise of liquidating solicitor and accountant, have to travel further to get away from indignant shareholders. So Boulogne-sur-Mer is changed for the better in this respect, and its beach boasts a great accession of bathing in the British fashion and some added industries to suit British customers. But there are still the cheerful, green-shuttered, gaily-fronted houses; the big hotels, the baskets of ripe peaches, and great plums and monstrous pears, the petite vins, the knife-and-fork breakfasts, the unmistakable French aspect that makes the fortnight's sojourn there such a thorough change, and gives us quite a travelled feeling when we come back and meet our friends, who, having gone no farther than Margate or Dover, or perhaps have only achieved a week at Southend, associate us with foreign journeys, and are a little afraid to bring out their French in our company, knowing that we have been so recently among "the natives."

DEATH FROM STARVATION.—A painful story was told, last Saturday, at an inquest held, in Bethnal-green, upon the body of a man, sixty-four years of age, who had died from starvation. The deceased lived with his son in an underground kitchen, and the latter had endeavoured to support himself and his father by selling leather straps for butchers' "steels." They had gone three months without tasting animal food, and had neither bedstead nor bedding in their wretched abode. The jury found that the poor man had died from want of the common necessities of life."

THE LATE DEAN ALFORD.—On Monday afternoon a statue of the late Dr. Alford, Dean of Canterbury, was publicly unveiled in the niche of the west front of the Cathedral at Canterbury. It has been subscribed for and erected by the Canterbury Harmonic Union, of which the late Dean was both founder and president. Dean Payne Smith and the other members of the Cathedral Chapter were present. The statue was uncovered by the cathedral architect, Mr. Harry G. Austin; the presentation on behalf of the society being made by the precentor, the Rev. R. Hake. After a few suitable remarks from the Dean, the proceedings closed with the singing by the assemblage of one of Dr. Alford's hymns, No. 299 in the year of praise, commencing with the words "Ten thousand times ten thousand." The memorial of the late Dean is placed next to the statue of Erasmus.



INTERIOR OF THE NEW OPERA-HOUSE IN PARIS: THE PROMENADE.



SEA-BATHING: ON THE BEACH AT BOULOGNE

ALLEGED NEW POLITICO-SOCIAL ALLIANCE.

A GREAT deal of talk has been current for a few days past as to an alleged alliance between certain leading aristocratic politicians and certain representatives of the working men which was to have wonderful political and social results. We look upon the whole affair as a huge piece of humbug; but, as a matter of public interest, we tell the tale as it has been told by those who profess to know. This is the version given by the *Daily Telegraph*:

"A scheme, such as was shadowed forth by Mr. Disraeli in 'Sibyl,' has taken a shape more distinct, though evidently not yet developed to the point of action, in certain reports of a 'new departure' in English politics. These reports have been vaguely flitting about for some time, and now some few of our contemporaries are beginning to break silence on the subject, the most connected account of the matter being given by the *Scotsman* and the *Manchester Guardian*. It would seem from this statement that early in January an idea of union between the aristocracy and the proletariat sprang up among certain peers, who invited a representative body of working men to commit their demands to paper. The negotiator in the early stage of the affair was Mr. Scott Russell, who enjoys the confidence of many artisans, and who addressed himself in the first instance to Mr. Allan, the secretary of the Society of Engineers. On learning that a number of Conservative members of the Upper House had become anxious to be brought into communication with the representative men of the skilled artisan classes throughout the country, for the purpose of obtaining something like an authoritative definition and expression of the social and political reforms desired by the workmen—'Was this information,' asked Mr. Allan, 'desired only with the object of conceiving measures to render those reforms altogether impossible?' An assurance was given, in reply, that the contrary was the case, and that the motive of those noblemen who had asked the question was to discover whether the wished-for reforms could not be brought before Parliament and passed into law. It was further urged upon the notice of Mr. Allan that the wishes of the skilled artisan, had never been reduced to the shape of definite formulas, and there was some difficulty in making out what those wishes really were. Still sceptical, Mr. Allan is represented as having asked if it was true that the leaders of the Conservative party, or any considerable section, could be willing to promote radical, social, and political reforms, or were their professions only a cloak for political designs—part of a scheme to increase the disorganisation, or at least the discontent, which already existed in the Liberal party, and to pave the way for a return of the Tories to power. The somewhat unpromising interview led, however, to further consultations, in which Mr. Allan was joined by colleagues not disinclined to hear the proposals which Mr. Scott Russell was empowered to lay before them. But the men to whom they were addressed owed yet some gratitude and consideration to the Liberal party; and might not this, after all, be a Tory trick? A rough draught of the views of the workmen was submitted to some of the supporters of the Government in the Upper House, but met with little sympathy or approval. Influential Liberals in the Commons House and among the body of leading capitalists are said to have been sounded or directly addressed, but to no better effect. In short, the only encouraging response on the part of Government supporters came from Lord Lichfield and the Marquis of Lorne. Thus thrown back on the Conservatives, the fifteen artisans, who by this time had been called into consultations, reduced their 'views' to seven distinct propositions, which subsequently remodelled without essential change of form, stand thus:

"1. Something like the United States homestead law, with modern improvements, is to be enacted, by which 'the families of our workmen' may be removed from the crowded quarters of the towns and given detached homesteads in the suburbs. 2. The Commune is to be established so far as to confer upon all counties, towns, and villages a perfect organisation for self-government, with powers for the acquisition and disposal of lands for the common good. 3. Eight hours of honest and skilled work shall constitute a day's labour. 4. Schools for technical instruction shall be established, at the expense of the State, in the midst of the homesteads of the proletariat. 5. Public markets shall be erected in every town, for the sale of goods in small quantities, of best quality, at wholesale price. 6. There shall be established, as parts of the public service, places of public recreation, knowledge, and refinement. 7. The railways shall be purchased and conducted, at the public expense, and for the common good, as the Post Office service is now conducted.

"On Aug. 4 the peers, who are said to have been, pending negotiations, kept in ignorance of the names of the working men, as were those of the names of the peers, signed an agreement, of which the following is a copy:

"The council of legislation for the well-being and well-doing of English skilled workmen accept the propositions made to them by Mr. Scott Russell, the President of the Council of Representative Working Men, constituted in January last. They accept the responsibility of advising with that council regarding the legislative measures necessary to promote the physical, moral, and intellectual welfare of the working classes. They accept the responsibility of preparing those legislative measures for carrying the objects of the working men into effect, and of bringing in and passing those measures through both Houses of Parliament. They do not conceal from themselves difficulties and opposition which may arise in carrying into execution this agreement, and in inducing Parliament to frame the legislation demanded; but they must rely upon the good sense and patriotism of the enlightened public opinion of the country to secure ultimate success.

"The signatories to the treaty on the part of the peers and commons are—The Earl of Lichfield, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Marquis of Lorne, Lord Henry Lennox, Lord John Manners, Sir John Pakington, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Mr. Gathorne Hardy. The Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Derby, and Mr. Disraeli, though they have not affixed their names to the document, are understood to have been privy to the negotiations. The names on the part of the artisans are those of Messrs. Robert Applegarth, joiner; Daniel Guile, ironfounder; George Howell, bricklayer; J. W. Hughes, carpenter; George Potter, joiner; Lloyd Jones, fustian-cutter; W. Broadhurst, mason; F. Wetstone, engineer; John Deighton, joiner; Alfred Barker, shoemaker; J. Squire, painter; P. Barry, author of 'Workmen's Rights'; R. M. Latham, chairman of the Labour Representation League; Sigismund Englander, telegraphist; T. J. Dunning, bookbinder; William Allan (pledged by D. Guile); Joseph Leicester; and Scott Russell, engineer.

"The Council of Legislation, as the peers call themselves, is shortly to be increased by the addition of seven other members; and early in January a meeting of the two councils is to be held, at which the form of the bills to be introduced into Parliament in February is to be determined. The appearance of Lord Lorne's name, as well as Lord Lichfield's, in the list of signatures is explained by the fact that these two noblemen, having been consulted at the outset of the negotiations, and having given their ready acquiescence to the propositions of the working men, declined to withdraw on finding themselves among political opponents."

This is the story as told by the *Daily News*:

"An effort has been in progress for some time past to unite the upper and working classes in some scheme of legislation for the amelioration of the condition of the people. It has been carried on almost entirely by the mediation of Mr. Scott Russell, who alone has been cognisant of the names of the negotiators on each side. The suggestions came, in the first place, from a body of working men who meet under the chairmanship of Mr. Scott Russell and the secretoryship of Mr. George Potter, and bears the title of the Council of Skilled Workmen. On Feb. 3 this council empowered its chairman to enter into negotiation with some peers who were anxious to know what were the real wishes of the working men, and it was not until Aug. 4 that he was able to make an official statement that a council of legislation had been formed by

a number of peers and other gentlemen, and had empowered him to communicate to the Council of Skilled Workmen the following resolution:

"The council of legislation for the well-being and well-doing of English skilled workmen accept the proposition made to them by Mr. Scott Russell, the president of the Council of Representative Working Men, constituted in January last. They accept the responsibility of advising with that council regarding the legislative measures necessary to promote the physical, moral, and intellectual welfare of the working classes. They accept the responsibility of preparing those legislative measures for carrying the objects of the working men into effect, and of bringing in and passing those measures through both Houses of Parliament."

"They do not conceal from themselves the great opposition which those measures will encounter in passing through Parliament; but they consider it their duty to make earnest efforts for the better understanding and closer union of the separated classes of society, and retain to themselves perfect freedom of judgment and decision on the wisdom of the measures proposed to them and the expedient modes of giving them effect, and they cordially unite with the working men for the promotion of the common good."

"The names of the ten gentlemen who had formed this Council of Legislation were not communicated to the working men till the whole programme had been agreed upon. It was understood that they included members of both Houses of Parliament, and, though chiefly Conservatives, had some Liberals among them. On Sept. 28 the fundamental principles of the movement having been agreed on and embodied in seven resolutions, the signatures of the Council of Legislation which had been affixed were read by the chairman, and the signatures of the Workmen's Council were added. The following were the seven resolutions:

"1. To rescue the families of our workmen from the dismal lanes, crowded alleys, and unwholesome dwellings of our towns and plant them out in the clear; where, in the middle of a garden, in a detached homestead, in wholesome air and sunshine, they may live and grow up strong, healthy, and pure, under the influences of a well-ordered home. 2. To enable this to be effectively carried out there must be created a perfect organisation for the self-government of counties, towns, and villages, with powers for the acquisition and disposal of land for the common good. 3. The next condition of the well-being of the skilled workman is that a day's labour shall consist of eight hours of honest work. 4. In addition to schools for elementary education, there shall be provided schools for practical knowledge and technical skill in the midst of their homesteads. 5. For the moral and physical well-being of the people, places of public recreation, knowledge, and refinement shall be organised as parts of the public service. 6. Public markets shall be erected in every town for the sale of goods in small quantities, of best quality, at wholesale price. 7. There shall be provided a great extension of the organisation of the public service on the model of the Post Office, for the common good."

"The above resolutions have been signed on the part of the Council of Legislation by the following gentlemen:—The Marquis of Salisbury, the Marquis of Lorne, the Earl of Lichfield, the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Henry Lennox, Lord John Manners, Sir John Pakington, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Mr. Gathorne Hardy. It was signed on behalf of the Council of Skilled Workmen by Messrs. Robert Applegarth, joiner; Daniel Guile, ironfounder; George Howell, bricklayer; J. W. Hughes, carpenter; George Potter, joiner; Lloyd Jones, fustian-cutter; W. Broadhurst, mason; F. Wetstone, engineer; John Deighton, joiner; Alfred Barker, shoemaker; J. Squire, painter; P. Barry, author of 'Workmen's Rights'; R. M. Latham, chairman of the Labour Representation League; Sigismund Englander, telegraphist; T. J. Dunning, bookbinder; William Allan (pledged by D. Guile); Joseph Leicester; and Scott Russell, engineer.

"It has been resolved that as early as possible in the autumn a meeting of the two bodies should take place, and it was intended that at that meeting, where the two councils would for the first time come face to face with each other, the form should be decided under which the announcement of the movement should be made public. It is, we believe, intended to increase the number of the peers' council to fifteen, or somewhat more, and to form joint committees of the two councils for all the various parts of the movement. It is understood that Mr. Disraeli, the Duke of Richmond, and Lord Derby have taken some part in the negotiations, and generally approve the movement, though they have not affixed their signatures to the resolutions."

Meanwhile, the contract is repudiated by both parties—"gentlemen" and "artisans." Lord Salisbury, Sir Stafford Northcote, the Marquis of Lorne, the Earls of Derby and Carnarvon, and Mr. Gathorne Hardy on the one side, and the "London Democrats" on the other, agreeing to deny that any such compact has really been formed. The Marquis of Salisbury says:—

I have read with considerable surprise the statement under the heading "A New Social Movement." I have not signed the resolutions contained in that statement, or expressed any approval of them. They were shown to me confidentially last summer. I fully sympathised with the wish to obtain better dwellings for the workmen of our great cities; but I expressed my strong disapproval of several of the proposals contained in the resolutions.

Sir Stafford Northcote is even more explicit in his repudiation, for himself and others, of the alleged compact. He makes this declaration:—

None of the noblemen or gentlemen whose names have lately been brought under public notice have signed, or in any way intimated their agreement with, any of the resolutions which have been published, or any resolutions at all; nor has any meeting taken place between them and any council or body of working men. All that has passed, so far as I am aware, is that some peers and members of Parliament have expressed their willingness to consider any suggestion for legislation on questions affecting the well-being of the working classes, and to discuss them in a friendly spirit. No such suggestions, however, have as yet been made in a form admitting of consideration.

On the other hand, what the "London Democrats" think of the affair appears from the following narrative:—On Monday night a meeting of the officers and delegates of the various Republicans and Democratic working men's societies, convened by the London Patriotic Society, was held in the club-room of the Hole-in-the-Wall, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the conduct of the Gladstone Government during the late session of Parliament, and whether they are worthy of the confidence and support of the working classes." Mr. W. Osborne occupied the chair. The chairman, having stated the object of the meeting, said he did not consider it just to test the Government by the proceedings of the last Session, but thought they should be judged by their whole conduct since they had been in office, and by that test he was prepared to contend that the Government was deserving of the confidence and support of the working classes generally. He referred to the reported alliance between certain Tory Lords and some so-called working men, and expressed his strong disapprobation of the whole proceedings. Messrs. Brighty and Savage having addressed the meeting, Mr. Mottershead moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, looking at the vicious and obstructive policy pursued by the Tory leaders in the last Session of Parliament, and the earnest and honest effort made by the Government to carry the Ballot Bill and to give education to the whole people, accords to the Premier its hearty confidence, in the full hope that he will still move on in the path of progress, and entirely throw himself upon the sympathies of the people at large." Mr. Patteson seconded the motion. Several other speeches were delivered for and against the resolution; while others stated they would vote for the resolution solely upon the understanding that it expressed confidence only in Mr. Gladstone, and not in his Government. A vote was then taken on the resolution by ballot, with the result that it was carried by a majority of thirty-two.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1871.

THE STOCKWELL TRAGEDY.

PERHAPS nobody nowadays believes in the Stockwell Ghost which occupies so prominent a place in Mrs. Crowe's "Night Side of Nature"; but it is impossible to refuse belief in the Stockwell murder—a word which we employ with all reserve pending inquiry into the sanity of Mr. Watson. Nor, in the present dearth of exciting topics, can we wonder that our daily contemporaries should have pounced eagerly upon this ghastly story, and got a few columns of fine writing out of it.

But some of this fine writing is, it must be confessed, a little incoherent or inconsequent. One contemporary makes the "tragedy" the text of a discourse on the duties of neighbourliness, and on the awful position of the servant-girl who was for two or three days in a lonely house with a murderer on one side and a corpse on the other. This is, undoubtedly, a striking and dreadful situation; but our contemporary observes that this "agony and terror" were not lessened by the fact that the girl knew nothing about it all till her master was going to be made a prisoner. It certainly seems to our poor intelligence that, since she positively did not know, there was, for her, neither "agony" nor "terror" in the case. As to neighbourliness, "the way out" is still more obscure. How could neighbourliness have affected the position of any one of the parties concerned in this story? An Englishman's house is his castle, and who wants uninvited people knocking at the door to say "Ahem! I hope you are all right and tight to-day? Nobody murdered in the library, I hope? How's your mother? And what did you have for dinner? Heaven bless you!" We have ever observed, in our passage thus far through this "vale of tears," that "neighbourly" people can be great nuisances. At all events, there is not the smallest presumption that the conditions of home life within this Stockwell household were not fixed *within* the household. Nay, more; there is some presumption upon the face of the matter that "neighbourliness" would have done most deadly harm. If, however, as has been suggested, the "solitude" of "city life" is so fraught with danger, just because nobody meddles with anyone else, we had better disband our police at once. It is of the very essence of civilisation that nobody should be permitted to meddle with anyone else, except on being solicited to do so, or upon grounds of common humanity, bound up in citizenship. It is among the very poor that there is the greatest amount of "neighbourliness"; and all honour to kind hearts, wherever they are; but it is also among the very poor that crimes of violence are most frequent. For reasons which are not obscure to the psychologist, people are prone to certain crimes in proportion as they have the tendency to assert a vested interest in each other. That tendency belongs in all its forms to the savage state. Marrow-bones and cleaver music at a wedding is a very "neighbourly" institution: in the days of Hogarth it was respectable, or, at least, a hanger-on of respectability; but nowadays, when the industrious apprentice marries his master's daughter, he would rather be let alone.

Other commentators are in raptures of surprise that a clergyman should have done the deed. If the offence had been one of indecorum or looseness of moral fibre, there would be some reason in this. But clergymen are as liable as other men to accesses of rage, and priests and prophets have occasionally done strong things, from the time when Samuel "hewed Agag in pieces" down till now. The unfortunate gentleman against whose name this crime is now bracketed appears to have been little of "a clergyman," in the usual reading of the words, though his name was in the *Clergy List*. He seems to have followed, until late in life, the dreary, exhausting, and frightfully irritating vocation of a schoolmaster, and, besides this, to have worked hard as a man of letters. He also appears to have been sorely tried in other ways. Who could deny him strong compassion? A more self-contained and even-natured man than Goethe never existed, and his life was singularly smooth and free from irritating conditions until his old age, when his wife, the unfortunate Christiane Vulpius, took to drinking. Now what said this great German?—"There is no sin that I might not have committed." We can see nothing whatever surprising in the nature of this particular crime. Such an event might well be *startling*; but that is because, come when it may, it comes suddenly. The only moral at present suggested is that it would have been a very good thing if some beneficent despotism could have interfered many years ago and put Mr. Watson and his wife a whole continent apart from each other; and even this inference might prove to be an unwarrantable prejudgment of the facts.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN gave a ball to the tenants and servants on the Balmoral, Aberfeldie, and Birkrill estates, on Monday evening, and was present for a short time, owing to much suffering, her Majesty was obliged to be carried into the room in an invalid-chair.

COUNT C. WACHTMEISTER, the Swedish Foreign Minister, was seized with a fit of apoplexy in the street on Saturday night, and died on the spot.

VISCOUNT DUFFEY, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, is to be advanced to the dignity of an Earl.

M. LEON SAY, the Prefect of the Seine, and M. Vautrein, President of the Municipal Council of Paris, are now in London, the guests of the Lord Mayor, who entertained them at a banquet on Wednesday evening.

THE VERY REV. R. W. CHURCH, M.A., the new Dean of St. Paul's, was installed in office on Tuesday, in the presence of a large number of the dignitaries of the cathedral and a large congregation.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON FRIENDLY SOCIETIES have intimated their intention to make Sheffield their next place for taking evidence. The Sheffield societies have combined to consider the evidence to be tendered.

A SOCIETY OF LADIES is proposed to be formed to promote modesty among girls, to do away with extravagance, and substitute the neatness and simplicity suitable to Christian women. Miss Harrison, of Swanage, Dorset, is acting as organiser of the Guild.

THE QUEEN HAS APPOINTED SIR ANDREW BUCHANAN, now at St. Petersburg, to be her Majesty's Ambassador to Austria; Lord Augustus Loftus, now at Berlin, will succeed Sir A. Buchanan as Ambassador to Russia; and Mr. Odo W. Russell becomes Ambassador-Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Germany.

M. ALFRED MATIVA, of the Civic Guard of L'Èze, gained the great English prize which was competed for at the Tir National of Brussels on the 15th.

SIR PHILIP'S SCHOOLS, LAMBETH, which have been erected as a memorial of the late Archbishop Sumner, were, on Tuesday, opened with a very simple ceremonial by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

SIR HUGH HILL, who, in November, 1861, was compelled, through deafness, to resign a judgeship in the Court of Queen's Bench, to which he had been appointed only three years before, has just died, at the age of sixty-nine.

M. VUILLOUT tells the readers of the *Univers* that they had better subscribe for the relief of the Pope than for that of the sufferers by the Cholera fire.

THE BRIGANTINE RUTH, laden with petroleum, caught fire off Erith on Monday, and both ship and cargo were destroyed. The fire was accompanied by an explosion, in which the mate and three of the crew were seriously injured.

THE CANCER HOSPITAL at Brompton has just received a third donation of £1000 from "G. M. E." through their bankers, Messrs. Coutts and Co.

THE IRON ARMOUR-CLAD TURRET-SHIP GORGON, built by Messrs. Palmer and Co., at Jarrow, for the Government, was launched from the yard of that firm, on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators.

THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, Haverstock-Hill, has received, through its secretary, Mr. Joseph Soul, at the office, 73, Cheapside, £1000, a donation from "O. W. S."

A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC PLACE OF WORSHIP, called the Church of the Holy Name, was opened for Divine service in Manchester on Monday. It cost nearly £40,000.

AN EXTENSIVE FIRE broke out, on Tuesday, upon the premises of Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, wholesale stationers and printers, in Hill-street, Finsbury. Much damage was done.

THE WELL-KNOWN CHINA TEA-CLIPPER THE TAE-PING has been lost. The master and eleven men are stated in a telegram received at Liverpool to have been landed at Saigon. The rest of the crew are not accounted for.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY has expelled from its membership a working jeweller of Paris, whose name is not given, for acting as a spy on the Communist refugees in London. At the last weekly meeting of the general council of the association it was stated that this person had already received 725f. for his services.

THE MAYOR OF PORTSMOUTH (Mr. John Baker) has suggested that the memorial in that town to Charles Dickens should be some institution in which the great novelist would have taken a special interest; or, in the event of a sufficient sum not being realised for that object, that an obelisk, with an inscription announcing the birth and death of Dickens, should be erected in the People's Park.

AS THE RACER, training-ship, was about to cast anchor in the Portland Roads, the other day, she slewed round and came in collision with the Boscombe, by which she carried away her jibboom and foretopgallant mast. The Boscombe suffered comparatively little injury.

THE DEPRIVATION OF MR. VOYSEY has been accomplished, according to the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and his Vicarage of Heanough has been conferred upon the Rev. Christopher Wyberg, M.A., Vicar of Weeton, near Leeds.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for opening the Mont Cenis Railway to the public on Nov. 16.

THE JARDIN DES PLANTES, at Paris, is becoming gradually repeopled, by the efforts of the French Consuls abroad, who have received instructions to make purchases of animals. A panther and a jaguar have just arrived from Paraná, and two elephants are expected from Calcutta.

MRS. BROOKE, of Gateforth House, Selby, has bequeathed to the Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots at Lancaster the munificent sum of £30,000; and Miss Catherine Pennington, of Bushel-place, Preston, has bequeathed £1000 to the above institution, £1000 to the intended Preston Orphan Asylum, £1000 to Preston Infirmary, and about £5000 to other charities.

A SAD CALAMITY is reported from the Tyne. A steamer, while leaving Shields harbour, came in collision with a schooner which had just come in from sea, and cut her down so completely that she sank at once, carrying five of her crew to the bottom with her.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER from April 1 to the 14th inst. were £32,669,362, an increase of nearly a million and a quarter sterling upon the amount in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £274,305, and in that of Ireland £213,428.

ANOTHER FATAL ACCIDENT is reported from the colliery districts. Three men were working about half way down the shaft of a coalpit near Dudley, when a blast of accumulated choke-damp occurred, by which a father and son were deprived of life, and a third person was seriously injured.

A SHOCKING CASE OF ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE is reported from Tonbridge. A man who was divorced from his wife, on account of his own adultery and cruelty, wanted her to live with him again, and on her refusal he secreted himself in her house, attempted to murder her, and, not fully succeeding, he cut his own throat. It is expected that both will recover.

THE CORPORATION OF LONDON have invited Baroness Burdett-Coutts to an entertainment on the occasion of the transfer of Columbia Market by her Ladyship to them, which will take place in a few days. The entertainment, which is to be a déjeuner, will be at the market, where there is a handsome room suited for such an occasion. Lady Burdett-Coutts has been pleased to accept the invitation.

FLORENCE CAROLINE COWPER, who was lately acquitted at the Middlesex Sessions upon a charge of fraud, is again in custody, accused of having stolen a gold watch, the property of a sergeant of police, at whose house she remained for a short time after the trial. The prisoner admitted having pledged the watch, but states that she intended to redeem and return it.

AT A COURT OF ALDERMEN, held on Tuesday, votes of condolence with the families of the late Alderman Moon and Sheriff Young, both of whom have died within the last few days, were passed. The Lord Mayor intimated that he had received a letter from Alderman Sir Sidney Waterlow resigning office on account of the delicacy of his health. The Court received this intimation with great regret, and delayed the reception of the letter in the hope that Sir Sidney might be induced to reconsider his determination.

THE POPE AND FRENCH BISHOPS.—The long delay in the installation of the Bishop of Tours as Archbiishop of Paris is owing to a novel pretension of the Court of Rome which M. Thiers will not defer to. In accordance with the Concordat, it was usual for the Pope first to recognise the nomination of a Bishop by the French Government and then to confirm the choice by canonical investiture. But after the fall of the Empire, on Sept. 4, 1870, the Pope invented a new form of bull, and affected to appoint French Bishops of his own mere motion, without taking any notice of the civil power in France. During the troubled times of the war two or three instances of the kind were passed over. But now that his Holiness, in spite of remonstrances, persists in violating the Concordat, M. Thiers, with the entire approbation of the Committee of the Council of State, whose duty it is to register Papal bulls, has determined to make a stand, and so Paris remains without an Archbiishop. It may very likely be long before the difficulty is got over.

THE LOUNGER.

THE notion that whereas the shopkeeping class is, in the main, Liberal, the artisans might, if the franchise were given them, be found to be Conservative, was first broached when Disraeli, in 1867, under severe pressure, assented to household suffrage. I do not recollect that Mr. Disraeli advanced this notion to justify his sudden conversion; but it is well known that his followers, when taunted with having thrown overboard their Conservative policy, defended themselves in this way:—"Well, do not be too sure of that. It is probable that you will discover that this is Conservative policy." It is not believable that this notion that the Democrats ever be other than democratic was the real reason why they followed their leader when he leaped Niagara. It was an after-thought. They were desperately hard up for an excuse for their flagrant tergiversation, and they discovered this, and it is probable that subsequently they came to believe it. A capital article in the *Saturday Review* of Oct. 14, on "Voluntary Belief," begins with this story:—John Wesley blamed one of his preachers for slackness in setting forth some part of his teaching. The preacher answered, "I do not feel that I thoroughly believe it." "Then," said Wesley, "preach it until you do believe it." And it is quite possible to do this. And this, I suspect, is what the Conservatives did. But if they did get to lay this flatteringunction to their souls, the general election of 1868 swept away their illusion. Their fool's paradise vanished like a dream. But shall we despair? Let us try "the friends of the poor" dodge; perhaps "this piece of toasted cheese will do it;" and promptly arose "Conservative working-men's associations," which were founded, not for the teaching of politics, but for the promulgation of the doctrine that the Tories have always been the true friends of the poor, and hence, I suspect, this "new social movement." True, the Lords and gentlemen who, the newspapers told us, had formed themselves into "a committee of legislature," and affixed their signatures to that remarkable programme of operations which so astonished us, are one by one denying the soft impeachment; but this notwithstanding, the story is not altogether a myth. No agreement could be come to, but clearly overtures have been made, and feelers put out by both parties. In short, though "a new social movement" could not be started on the conditions proposed, clearly a new social movement was by both parties contemplated.

That programme which I have alluded to is one of the most amazing documents I ever read. From whose head did it emanate? Mr. Scott Russell, we are told, is the president of the "Council of Skilled Workmen," from whom "the suggestions"—suggestions, I suppose, for a new social movement—came. Did Mr. Scott Russell, then, draw up or sanction this strange programme? Take this item of it, for example: "That all working men of our towns shall be taken from the dismal lanes, &c., and planted out in the clear, where, in the middle of a garden, in a detached homestead," &c. Beautiful arcadian picture, this! But where is there a "clear" available for metropolitan workmen? And how, if one could be found, is a working man to pay the rent for a detached homestead in the middle of a garden? Then look at item 3, "The next condition of the well-being of the skilled workman is that a day's labour shall consist of eight hours of honest work." Eight hours' work; and, when you have done, go home to a detached homestead in a garden out in the clear! What think you of that, Mr. Editor? But this is not all. Item 6 demands that "in every town public markets shall be erected for the sale of goods in small quantities, of the best quality, at wholesale prices." And all this is to be done for the working men by the State; at least so it would seem; for there is or was to be a legislative council, "to prepare those legislative measures for carrying the objects of the working men into effect, and for bringing in and passing those measures through both Houses of Parliament." By-the-way, before I leave this matter I may notice that what the working man demands in item 6 has been extensively done in the north by means of co-operative societies. But the northern working men did not ask the State to do it, but did it themselves; and my advice to the working men of London is, "Go and do likewise." And if they do not know how to set to work, let them read "Self-Help for the People: a History of Co-operation in Rochdale," by G. J. Holyoake, of which the *Westminster Review* says:—"The narrative itself, so satisfactory as an exposition, has the additional attraction which a pleasant, genial manner, and a generous, tolerant, and appreciating spirit always imparts." In short, let the working men, in all things, instead of looking to Parliament or going whining to Lords and other sources for help, help themselves.

There was to be a Cabinet meeting on Friday, presumably to settle the programme of work for next Session; and it is quite time to get that settled, for when the list of bills for a Session has been made out they have all to be considered and reconsidered, sketched out roughly, licked into shape, and then drawn by the professional bill-drawers. The Ballot Bill is to stand first upon the list; the Scotch Education Bill second—at least so the Prime Minister promised. Then there are the Mines Regulation Bill, the Mercantile Shipping Bill, and the Intoxicating Liquors Licenses Bill. All these are most important measures. Here, then, we have five great measures which the Government stand pledged to get passed next Session. Of course, there will be many less important bills. Is there room for any more great measures? Experience says no. I suppose, though, Mr. Cardwell will have an Army Regulation Bill. But, as Army purchase is abolished, one would think that the Regulation Bill will not take up much time. Here, then, with the Estimates, is quite sufficient Government work, if the work is to be done calmly, deliberately, and well. "Surely," I think I hear some reader say, "it will not take six months to get five measures and the Estimates passed." Six months, my friend! Do you know how many nights out of the 120 which the House generally sits are at the command of the Government? Just two out of six, or forty in all. True, towards the end of the Session it gets two morning sittings a week—say twelve in all—which we may calculate roughly will bring up the Government sittings to fifty-two. But we must remember that, besides the important bills, there is always a considerable number of smaller Government measures. Last Session the Government brought in altogether somewhere about 130 bills.

Professor Fawcett, in an article published in the last *Fortnightly Review*, tells this story:—"Not long since the following conversation took place within less than a hundred miles of Westminster Hall. An Irish member had been promised a Government appointment; his seat was consequently about to become vacant; he came to a friend and asked whether he thought that a very distinguished man, whom we will call A. B., would like to become a candidate for the seat. The friend replied, 'Is not the constituency Catholic? and will it not be necessary for a candidate to pledge himself in favour of denominational education?' A. B. has always been one of the best-known advocates of the opposite system, and therefore there will be some difficulty in his accepting the pledge.' The member was incredulous that anyone could raise so trivial an objection. The friend advised the member to visit A. B. He did so. He found A. B. deaf to all his entreaties; but, though thus baffled in his search for a candidate, he did not go far to find what he wanted. A rejected candidate of an English Radical constituency, who had been but lately enthusiastic for undenominational education, was not deterred by any scruples. He gave the priests every promise they asked of him, and success rewarded the elasticity of his principles." This is the story. And now who were the parties, and which the borough? Let me guess, but only in initials. Was the member who vacated his seat J. A. B.? the friend, H. F.? the pliable candidate, R. B. O.? the borough or city, W.?

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

When we are all sick of the "Autumn Manoeuvres," when the manoeuvres are over, and the autumn rapidly passing away; when of things military we are quite weary, and are delighted to get hold of a newspaper which will appeal directly to the civilian mind, the theatres suddenly strike up a forgotten chord. A farce called "Autumn Manoeuvres," written by a Mr. W. R. Snow, with some knowledge of his subject, has gone off like a damp squib at the VAUDEVILLE, a theatre which certainly wants some life put into it. There were several reasons why the "Autumn Manoeuvres" did not go off with any amount of éclat. First of all, the subject has been done to death; secondly, the farce was played at seven o'clock, when nobody goes to the theatre; thirdly, the trifle was very badly acted. I look forward with dread to another farce called "Autumn Manoeuvres," at the Adelphi. Why cannot people allow the manoeuvres and everything connected with them to rest?

The HAYMARKET, now Mr. Sothern has gone, has reverted to the old Haymarket business. Miss Madge Robertson has given us a pleasant but eminently unpoetical rendering of Rosalind, and Mr. J. B. Buckstone has come back to play Bob Acres, in "The Rivals." I must say that I think the Haymarket authorities might devote one entire week to the revival of the three celebrated plays performed since Mr. Sothern's departure. These have been "The School for Scandal," "As You Like It," and "The Rivals." It is impossible to wake up theatrical London in an instant. The constant changing of the programme is as unfair to the artists as it is to the public.

The ALHAMBRA, a property which has been absolutely ruined by the restrictive policy of the Middlesex magistrates, is compelled to revert to an unfortunate entertainment. The Alhambra is neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red-herring. A music-hall entertainment without the easy license of the music-hall is a hasty affair, and so the public seem to think. It has been proposed to keep Cremorne open as a tea-garden, to conduct the property on purely temperance principles. But the thing will not do. It is like flogging a dead horse. The Alhambra and Cremorne are doomed for this year at least, and the best thing their proprietors can do is to grin and bear it, or attempt to wreak a miserable vengeance on their persecutors. The notion of purifying Chelsea by shutting Cremorne, or disinfecting Leicester-square by refusing Mr. Strange his license, is to me the most extravagant proposition which could have occurred to anyone. But magistrates will be magistrates.

I beg pardon, I must make one exception; there is one thing which astonishes me even more than the magisterial folly, and that is the managerial policy which expects a dramatic version of "Pickwick" will pull a theatre together which has opened with a flourish of trumpets and notoriously failed. People go out of their way to do foolish things. If there is one story in the world which it is impossible to dramatise, that story is "Pickwick." Mark how the author fitters himself! He takes a series of sketches; for the "Pickwick Papers" is no more a novel in the ordinary acceptance of the term than a monthly number of a magazine. He takes a story which is no story, and rudely thrusts before us characters we know so well that they are impossible to be accurately realised. "Pickwick Papers," by Mr. James Albery, at the Lyceum." This is the unfortunate announcement which greets the critic. He knows "Pickwick" cannot be dramatised; he knows that Mr. Albery is losing himself by attempting the task; and he knows, also, that the Lyceum has not the actors requisite. What theatre has? Mr. Henry Irving may be something like Jingle; but, fine actors as they are, Mr. Belmore and Mr. Addison will never represent Sam Weller or Mr. Pickwick. It is little use saying that it is unfair to criticise beforehand; but it is just as easy to see that the story of "Pickwick" cannot make a good play, as it is to know for certain that Mr. Toole could not act Hamlet, or that Mrs. Keeley would not be suited for Ophelia. There never was such a case of drowning men catching at straws as this "Pickwick" at the Lyceum. It would have been far wiser if Mr. Bateman had reverted to the eldest daughter, and revived "Leah" until the mysterious play by Mr. Tom Taylor

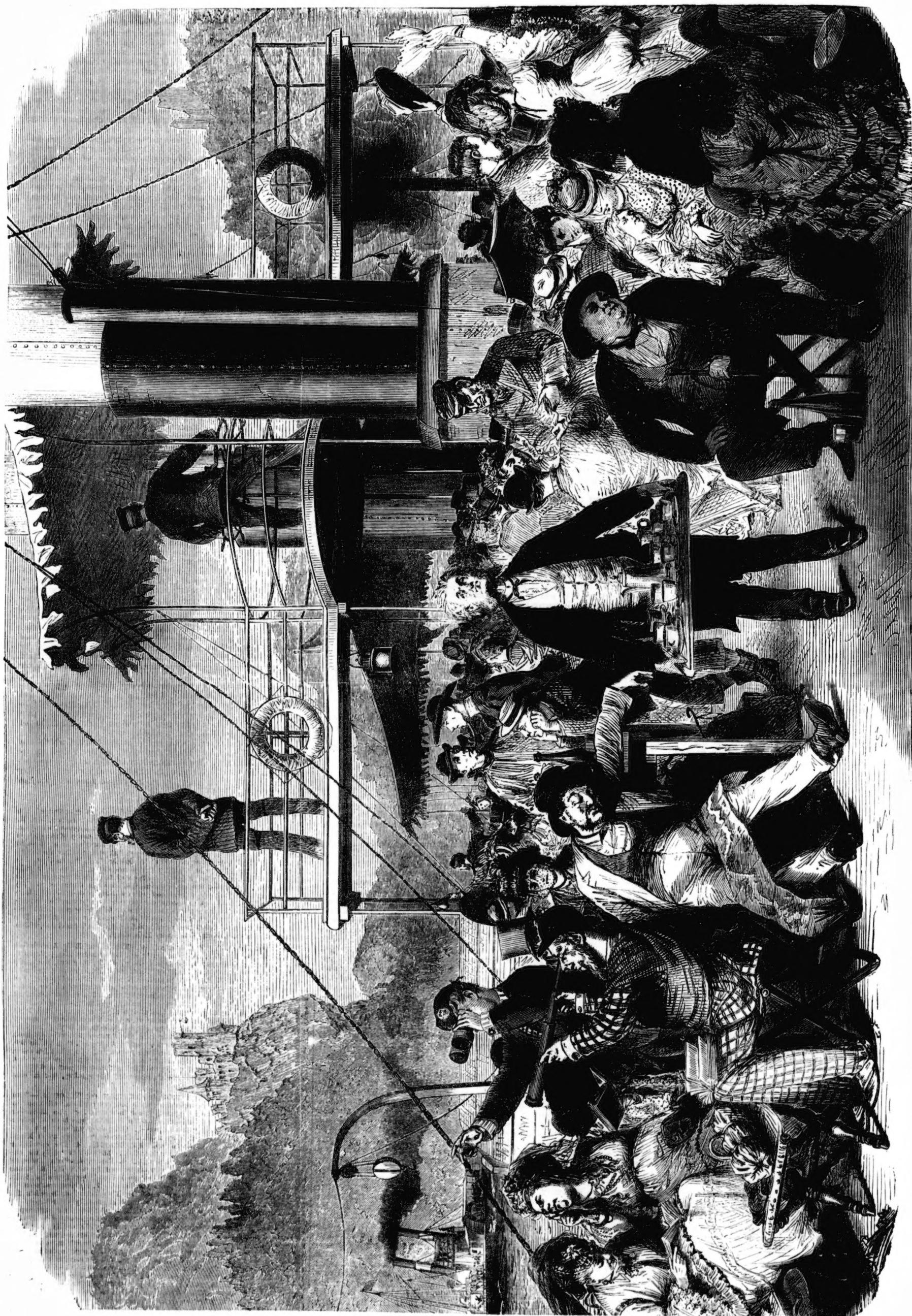
Another circus—and a circus on a very grand scale—is promised at ASTLEY'S on Saturday night. The Messrs. Sanger have a wonderful reputation in the provinces; and, if a circus will do anywhere, it will succeed in the equestrian temple which, in spite of its contiguity to the parks and the West-End, still reeks of Stangate, the Surrey side, and sawdust.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert promises a comedy, at the COURNT, which was to have been called "On Guard," but which will be called something else; a comedy at the HAYMARKET; and a comic opera, at Christmas-time, at the GAELTY, in which he will be assisted by the musical Arthur Sullivan; so we may look forward to some good things yet.

THE DERBY MEMORIAL STATUE.—On Monday, at a meeting of the Health and Recreation Committee of the Preston Corporation, Mr. R. Townley Parker made a statement to the effect that, in company with Mr. Noble, the sculptor, he had during the past week viewed many of the statues in London, of bronze and marble, for the purpose of forming an opinion as to what would be best in regard to size, height, and material for the statue of the late Earl of Derby to be erected in the Miller Park, Preston. As the life-size statues they had seen seemed puny when elevated, and as Carrara marble would best resist the prejudicial effects of the atmosphere in which it would stand, they had come to the conclusion that the statue should be of that material, 11 ft. high, and placed upon a pedestal of polished Aberdeen granite 15 ft. high. After some conversation the committee unanimously concurred with these recommendations. It is now estimated that the cost of the statue will be £1700, and of the pedestal about £500. The Preston Town Council have already granted £200 for the foundation, which will consist of a solid block of masonry 12 ft. deep.

THE IRISH HOME RULE ASSOCIATION.—The Home Rule Association met in Dublin on Tuesday. Alderman Durden, Lord Mayor Elect, presided. There was a large attendance. Sir George Bowyer, Mr. Maguire, M.P., and Mr. Bolster, president of the Limerick Farmers' Club, were admitted new members. Mr. Butt, M.P., proposed a resolution that the continued refusal to comply with the strong and repeated recommendations of the Committees of the House of Commons and Royal Commission that advances by way of loan should be given to the fishermen engaged in the Irish deep-sea fisheries supplies a striking illustration of the disadvantages which the industry sustains in the absence of home rule. In the course of a speech which occupied an hour in delivery, he quoted reports of Royal Commissions, &c., with the view of showing that their recommendations which were for the benefit of the Irish fisheries were not adopted, that the Scotch fisheries were favoured while the Irish were neglected. He asked Irishmen if they were patient to submit to a system of government which squandered £100,000 on Royal parks in England, but refused £10,000 to the Irish fisheries. Mr. Smyth, M.P., seconded the motion, which was adopted.

ALLEGED INTRIGUES FOR THE ANNEXATION OF BELGIUM.—The *Indépendance Belge* gives passages from a memoir on Belgium, composed in 1869 by a Belgian journalist named Oscar Lessines, for the Emperor Napoleon. The manuscript was found at the Tuilleries, and is divided into chapters, with the following headings:—1. Why the Belgians do not love their King. 2. What attracts the Belgians towards Napoleon III. 4. The character of the Belgians is peculiar and misunderstood. It is disturbed by the existence of the Catholic and Liberal parties. 5. Principal officials, who on certain conditions would deny the government of Leopold II. 6. Means to be employed for the election of Napoleon III. as King of the Belgians. Means of corruption; conduct towards the Press. 7. Institutions possible for the kingdom of Belgium governed by Napoleon. 8. Benefits for Belgium under the government of the Imperial family of France. 9. Frenchmen agreeable to Belgium, who might be employed for the purpose of procuring the Crown of the country for the Emperor. Lessines reproaches the King of the Belgians with performing too literally his constitutional rôle, and not abandoning himself to amiable distractions. In both respects he has, of course, better hopes of the Emperor, to whom, as he states, the Clerical party in Belgium is thoroughly devoted. Lessines also indicates the means of enlisting the Jesuits, the Bishops, and the secular clergy, and the Masonic lodges in the cause of Napoleon. According to him there is no body in Belgium who could not be purchased. The *Indépendance Belge* devotes a very large portion of



THE TOURIST SEASON : THE DECK OF A RHINE STEAM-BOAT.

FUNERAL OF SIR JOHN BURGOYNE.

ON Tuesday forenoon were performed the simple yet imposing obsequies of this aged and distinguished officer, the record of whose life embraces so much that is momentous in our island story. Among the many honours that had been conferred upon the deceased Field Marshal was the office of Constable of the Tower of London, an office which, ever since the Conqueror created it for Geoffrey de Mandeville, as a reward for his good service at Hastings, has been the guerdon for special duties done to the State, whether in council-chamber or in field. That office, inherited as it was in direct succession from two Field Marshals, gallant companions in arms, the Duke of Wellington and Lord Combermere, Sir John Burgoyne appears to have prized above all the other honours that had been so deservedly heaped upon the tried soldier of seventy-three years' service, and it is understood that it was at his own request that his remains should be interred in the chapel of the historic fortress of which he was the Constable. Although at first it was determined that the interment should be a private one, this resolution was overborne by the keen anxiety of the officers of the British Army in general, and of that of the officers and men of the Royal Engineers, Sir John's own special arm, in particular, to be admitted to the privilege of following one of the fathers of the Army to his last resting-place, and at length, after several modifications of intention, the funeral assumed the character of a public one in a military sense.

A comparatively small number of specially-invited guests assembled shortly before ten a.m. at the residence of the late Field Marshal, in Pembridge-square. The coffin was of plain polished oak, without ornament, saveing the brass plate bearing the following inscription:— "Field Marshal Sir John Fox Burgoyne, Baronet, G.C.B., Colonel Commandant of the Royal Engineers, Constable of the Tower of London, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the Tower Hamlets; born, July, 1782; died, October, 1871." It was covered with a pall of black velvet, overspread with the crimson satin robes of the Order of the Bath. The coffin having been placed in the hearse, the funeral procession quitted Pembridge-



THE LATE FIELD MARSHAL SIR JOHN FOX BURGOYNE.

square at ten o'clock, and proceeded eastward at a slow pace, by Oxford-street, the Holborn Viaduct, Cheapside, King William-street, Eastcheap, and Tower-street to Tower-hill. Everywhere it passed through respectful crowds, drawn together not certainly by any splendour of pageantry, for the procession was studiously plain, but from the desire to honour themselves by doing honour to the remains of one who had ever deserved well of his Fatherland and its people. A large proportion of the shops along the route were closed.

Those who waited for the procession on Tower-hill saw the open area thereabouts densely packed with spectators, a single alley being kept open by the police from the end of Tower-street to the Stockade-gate. The standard of Great Britain floated half-mast high from the tall flagstaff on the summit of the White Tower. Suddenly at minute intervals tolled the solemn passing-bell. The Stockade-gate was held by a detachment of the warders of the Tower, old soldiers, with medals on breast, wearing the well-known fanciful "beefeater" uniform, quaint ruffs, tabard-like jerkins, bright-red hose, and protuse parti-coloured rosettes. Inside the gate the lining of the thoroughfare by which the cortège was to pass was taken up by the first battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards, under Colonel Meyrick. The regiment of household infantry extended from the gate all along the wharf to the eastern drawbridge, with its band and pipers in the centre, on the arch above the Traitors'-gate; this circuitous route being rendered necessary from the circumstance that the old Norman archways of the Middle, Byward, and Bloody Towers, crossing the most direct route to the front of St. Peter's Chapel, are not capacious enough to allow of the passage through them of a hearse with plumes. The eastern drawbridge was held by warders, and from the "Inner Ward" verge of it the duty of lining the road was taken up by the Royal Engineers, who extended from the drawbridge to within fifty yards of the chapel, with their centre and band in front of the Guards' mess-house. In all, about five hundred of the Royal Engineers were on the ground, consisting of four companies, the whole under the command of Colonel Grant, the officers commanding companies being



FUNERAL OF THE GALLANT FIREMAN FORD.

Captains Stockley, Bullen, Parnell, and Jopp. Of these, three companies furnished the contingent which carried the double alignment up to within fifty yards of the chapel. Then the double alignment was taken up as far as the gable of the chapel by the corps of commissioners, with their band on the right of the line, having its back to the White Tower and the medley of antiquated artillery monstrosities flanking it. Right fitting was it that these commissioners should be nigh at hand on such an occasion as this, for the corps was one of the chief engrossments of Sir John Burgoyne's later days. To him as much as to anyone is due the happy thought that has done so much to preserve the self-respect and swell the pittance of the deserving pensioner. No wonder that there were wet eyes among the commissioners as they saw their old chief borne by them. Beyond the commissioners, facing the front of the chapel, was drawn up the special guard of honour, consisting of a company of the Royal Engineers, under the command of Captain Stockley, and the pavement before the chapel was lined by the Tower warders. The little esplanade behind the Engineers—that memorable plateau in the centre of which is the tablet denoting the spot where stood the block on which, in days of yore, fell many a noble head—was thronged long before the arrival of the cortége by officers of all grades and all branches of both services, in full uniform. The area was a sea of feathers springing from cocked hats. The Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief was there in sash of blue and crimson; the scarlet of the Line contrasted with the blue of the artillery, the dark green of the riflemen, and the grey of the volunteers. Nor were foreign uniforms wanting to add to the contrasts of the scene. An Austrian hussar all in purple, with furred slung jacket and hessian boots, stood beside an American General in his plain dark blue with the unassuming stars. Into the open space in front of the chapel had moved the valets of the deceased, bearing his honours. One carried on a velvet cushion his multitudinous insignia. The gold cross of the French Legion of Honour glittered by the side of that other British gold cross that commemorates service at Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nive, and Sebastian; flashed the brilliants in the order of the Medjidie, and the jewels in the collar of the Tower and Sword of Portugal, with the interstices filled up by medals and clasps for Busaco, Ciudad Rodrigo, Nivelle, Sebastopol, Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman. Another valet carried his master's Field Marshal's baton, all purple velvet and gold, till a more fitting bearer was directed to assume it, in the person of Colonel Milman, Major of the Tower, and acting interim Constable by Sir John Burgoyne's death. A third attendant carried the sword, and a fourth the cocked hat of the late Field Marshal. And so, under the bleak autumnal sunshine—under, too, the rustle of the half-withered leaves, the drooping standard, and the mournful pealing of the bell—the set parade waited by the chapel for the coming of the corpse of him, as a last honour to whom it had been brought together.

At twelve o'clock the hearse rumbled over the drawbridge on to the wharf. Eight picked sergeants of the Royal Engineers had stepped forward as the hearse entered the Tower precincts, and had ranged themselves four on each side of it. At the moment of entry the band of the Scots Fusiliers in the distance struck up the "Dead March" in "Saul." As the band struck up, the first round was fired by Captain Handyside's gunners on the wharf of the seventeen rounds which are the due of a dead Field Marshal. To the dirge of the wailing "Dead March" and the successive crashes of the artillery the procession passed slowly along between the lines of statue-like Guardsmen bending over their reversed arms. It passed on its left the Middle and Byward Towers, once the prison homes of the illustrious. Further on was the Bloody Tower, where "Uncle Gloucester" murdered the Princes. At that little grated window Raleigh used to sit and write, and behind is the terrace on the wall known as Raleigh's walk, whence in later days Burdett saw the soldiers lashed because they had been apt scholars of the lessons he had taught them. Behind those gratings in the Wakefield Tower was the cage of Henry VI., where the weak Monarch's pious meditations were interrupted by the blows of the assassins. Beneath the arch of that Traitors' Gate over which the hearse passed what a memorable procession in our history has passed! On these slimy steps Elizabeth planted her firm foot, "pulling back with her hand with a good dash" the cloak offered to her; here passed peers, women, soldiers, poets—Buckingham and Strafford, Lady Jane Grey, William Wallace, David Bruce, Surrey, Raleigh. Reaching the eastern end of the wharf, the procession wheeled to the left over the eastern drawbridge, and now it had quitted the "Folks Quarter," and was in the ancient "Royal Quarter." At this point the band of the Royal Engineers took up the "Dead March," and the hearse, having passed through the intervening narrow alley, slowly wheeled on to the parade-ground, while the hoarse command, "Present arms!" addressed to the guard of honour, the roar of the cannon, the wailing of the band, and the boom of the deep-tongued bell, make up an impressive diapason of sound.

While the pedestrian procession was slowly forming outside, the interior of the little chapel was empty, save for Mr. Cardwell and a warden. A quaint, ancient, and, it may be added, dilapidated, edifice is the Church of St. Peter ad Vincula, in the precinct of the Tower. True, the walls we now see are not those built by Gundulf the Weeper; but they date from the days of Edward I., and that is now a long time ago. The chapel has suffered not a little from vandal warders and lieutenants, and from utilitarian Commissioners of Works; but the shell of fine old Norman work is yet stanchly to the fore. George II. spoiled the interior with heavy galleries, and it was only a few years ago that the old oak roof was relieved from its casing of barbarous plaster. St. Peter's may be called the Golgotha of the beheaded. Its floor is composed of the dust of memorable ones. Within its precincts were buried the hapless Queens, Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard. Thomas Seymour, the Lord Admiral, lies headless by the side of his headless brother, the Protector. Elizabeth sent thither Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk; and Devereux, Earl of Essex. Mary was fonder of Smithfield and the fire and faggot, but among her contributions to the dust of St. Peter's were Lady Jane Grey and her husband. James I. contributed the noble Raleigh. Not in the chapel were buried the headless corpses of the dauntless Balmerino, the mild, hapless Kilmarnock, and the cynical Lovat, who went to the block with a jeer on his lips; but their coffin-plates, found amid the excavations for the present barracks, were placed in the vestry, where they may now be seen. The aristocracy of State criminals lie in St. Peter's. Of the many dead by violent deaths who lie under its flagstones, all save one died the "gentleman's death" of decapitation. The sole exception is Sir Gervase Elwes, a wretch whose infamy should have excluded him from such a spot. This caitiff, who had borne an active part in the poisoning of Overbury, was granted his last request, that he might be buried in St. Peter's after dying by the hangman's cord on Tyburn; and now, in the same precincts with his victim, he lies here the hangman's sole contribution to St. Peter's. For though "Silken Thomas" of Kildare was hanged at Tyburn with his five Geraldine uncles, it is not he who is the Fitzgerald who lies in St. Peter's, but his father, the ninth Earl, who died in the Tower of a broken heart. You may see the name and arms of "Silken Thomas" carved on the gloomy wall of the adjacent Beauchamp Tower, where he lay a year before he journeyed westward to Tyburn. It is pleasant to turn from Elwes to the memory of one who in stanch, loyal performance of his duty was a prototype of him who was laid in St. Peter's on Tuesday—gallant Talbot Edwards, the brave old guardian of the Regalia against the desperate attempt of the infamous Colonel Blood. It was at the eastern end of the chapel, and under the communion-table, which was removed for the purpose, that the grave of Sir John Burgoyne was dug. He rests at the feet of stout old Sir Michael Blount, and, it is believed, near the gallant Talbot Edwards. Although no authentic data exist, it is believed that in the same immediate vicinity were buried the two beheaded Queens of Henry VIII. So close lie the coffins that some difficulty was encountered in finding space sufficient for the most recent grave, and in the course of the excavation two leaden

coffins were exposed, evidently of considerable antiquity. Very few interments have been made in St. Peter's during the present century. The last person buried there was Major Elvington, who died in 1857, after having been Lieutenant of the Tower forty-one years.

Some time was spent in marshalling the little procession outside; but at length the solemn tones of the officiating clergyman were heard as, walking in advance of the coffin, he entered the western doorway. Then the procession, with slow solemnity, advanced up the narrow aisle in the following order:

Colonel Milman, Major and Interim Constable of the Tower, bearer of the Field Marshal's baton of the deceased.
Valet bearing insignia
on cushion.
Valet bearing cocked-hat.

Valet bearing dress
sword.

Four
Engineer
Sergeants,
Bearers.
THE COFFIN,
swathed in the crimson
robes of the Bath.

Four
Engineer
Sergeants,
Bearers.

Gen. the Hon. A. Harding.
M. Van de Velde, representing the King of the Belgians.
Gen. Sir Wm. Knollys, representative of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.
H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, attended by the following officers of the Head quarters Staff:—Gen. Sir R. Alfrey, Col. Clifton, Col. Herbert, Col. Egerton.

Gen. Sir John Cowell.
Col. the Hon. W. Colville, representing H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.
Lord Sydney, Lord Chamberlain of H.M. Household, as representing the Royal Household.

Deputation of American Gentlemen, consisting of General Jackson, Mr. B. Moran, and others.
Deputation of the Trinity House, consisting of Sir Frederick Arrow, Deputy Master, and three Elder Brethren.
The Family Mourner.

The above, owing to the small dimensions of the chapel, comprised the whole procession as formally marshalled. Behind followed a seemingly endless stream of officers. Among the foremost walked Sir Wm. Gomm, bent and feeble, yet with something left of the old carriage of martialism befitting one whose commission dates earlier than that of the ancient soldier whom he came to bury. Only a little younger and no less worthy a soldier than Sir William, but with laurels earned on fields in another clime, came Field Marshal Sir George Pollock, among the crowd of his juniors. The gloomy little chapel was lighted up gradually by a great glitter of colour as the uniformed men streamed in and settled down into the pews—a brilliant medley of red, blue, and gold, feathers, gilt scabbards, and bullion belts. The galleries were filled more rapidly and with less formality by as many civilian spectators, male and female, as could by any expedient of close packing be condensed into the narrow space.

The noise and bustle of the entry fell suddenly into a dead, oppressive quiet as the clergyman again lifted up his voice. The din of the cannon had ceased and the wail of the Dead March; nothing broke the dead silence save the words and the responses of the service, till the rustling sound came of the descent of the coffin into the grave as the solemn words were uttered, "Earth to earth, dust to dust, ashes to ashes"—words so familiar to all, yet never heard without a new thrill. As the coffin sank, the baton and sword, previously borne erect by its head, were slowly depressed, and not again raised. Then, as the service concluded, the cannon on the wharf boomed out again another salute of seventeen guns, and the assemblage slowly dispersed, numerous officers coming to the verge of the grave for one last look on the coffin of their venerable comrade before the earth should be heaped upon it. And so terminated the obsequies of Field Marshal Sir John Burgoyne, the soldier-philanthropist, whose long, gallant, and stainless career will, let us hope, be referred to with national pride so long as virtues such as his are esteemed in Britain.

FUNERAL OF THE FIREMAN FORD.

THE funeral of the fireman Ford, who lost his life recently at a fire in the Gray's-inn-road, took place last Saturday at Abney Park Cemetery. A procession was formed at the Holborn fire-engine station in the following order:—Band of the E division of metropolitan police; the body, drawn on a fire-engine; mourning-coaches; firemen of the Metropolitan Brigade; four engines of the brigade, draped; the London Salvage Corps; and the band of the G division of metropolitan police. Various volunteer corps from distant parts attended, making the procession about half a mile long. Crowds assembled along the whole route taken by the procession—a distance of five or six miles—and both in Holborn and in the neighbourhood of the cemetery shutters were put up at the majority of the shops. The cemetery was thronged with people; and when the funeral procession had entered the grounds the gates were closed, or the cemetery would have been completely overrun by the mob. Ford's remains were placed in an oak coffin, on the top of which were his battered brass helmet, axe, belt, &c. The grave was near that of Mr. Braidwood.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has agreed to allow Ford's widow £1 a week for the next six months, after which they would determine what further provision should be made for her. The subscription to make a permanent provision for the gallant fellow's family is still open, and progresses satisfactorily. Captain Shaw will receive contributions.

The inquiry into Ford's death was brought to a close on Wednesday, when the jury, in returning a verdict of "Accidental death," expressed an opinion that the fire-escape was not constructed in the most efficient manner, and that, with copper gauze and non-inflammable material, the death of the brave fellow might have been avoided.

ARCHDEACON DENISON ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND EDUCATION QUESTIONS.—Archdeacon Denison having received from the Liberation Society a copy of a lately-published pamphlet entitled "Voices from Within; or, Disestablishment as viewed by Churchmen," has written a letter to the secretary, in which, after thanking him for the publication, he thus refers to the question at issue:—"The question of the duty of contending for 'The Establishment' is becoming every day a more doubtful question. Many causes contribute to this issue, among them—1. Past legislation. 2. Proposed legislation. 3. Judicial 'interpretations' of the laws of 'this Church and Realm.' All these point the same way—to the impossibility of the 'Establishment' continuing to be 'the Church.' To take one particular. 'The Elementary Education Act' of last year establishes 'school rate.' The entire 'success' of the Act turns upon the power of imposing 'school rate.' 'School rate' is a 'grievance of conscience'—'Church rate' was abolished because it was alleged to be a 'grievance of conscience' to Nonconformists. 'School rate' is a 'grievance of conscience' to all religious bodies alike. If a 'school rate' is imposed upon me I shall not pay it, nor allow it to be paid on my account, except by way of distress."

A DANCING DERVISH.—The *Levant Times* describes the burial of the Sheikh of the Dancing Dervishes, who died at the Teké, Pera:—"His body was carried by the dervishes to the mosque at Tophaneh, where prayer was said, and back by another route to the Teké, where it was interred in the cemetery belonging to the order. The deceased's person was familiar, not only to residents, but to myriads of tourists, not a single one of whom is likely to have omitted, in doing the 'lions' of Constantinople, to pay a visit to the Dancing Dervishes. He is reputed to have attained the fabulous age of 108 years, and there is attached to him a still more extraordinary interest—namely, that he was born in the grave, just after the interment of his mother, from which circumstance he derived his name of *Coudret-Oullah*, or 'Child of Earth.' He himself firmly believes in this story, which we have on his own authority. We have also heard it narrated, though not by himself, that like his mother, he was prematurely buried. This is said to have happened some thirty years ago. Mussulman coffins, and also graves, are, however, adapted for such accidents. The former are very flimsy and roomy, and the latter shallow and lightly covered in, until a long time after the burial. The late Sheikh, though very infirm in body, possessed all his faculties unclouded to the last, and his memory, which was remarkably tenacious, never failed him. The office, being an hereditary one, devolves upon his son, Atta Bey, who is a man of middle size."

GOING "UP THE RHINE."

THE British tourist—invincible, energetic, and with a determined nationality that displays itself in all circumstances—has taken the first opportunity of visiting the great battle-fields of the recent war; and, now that the high roads of Europe are free from beleaguered troops, is still making the most of the short autumn days on the Continent. Not till next year, however, will the old familiar trip "up the Rhine" assume its usual popularity. Then the great steam-boats starting from Dusseldorf, and taking their human cargo in at Cologne, will wake snorting echoes from the castled heights of the grand river, the name of which has been sung so patriotically during the stormy conflict of the past few months. Instead of a great military investment of the vast hotels of the city celebrated for its hundred stanches and its perfumed water, hordes of hungry and dusty travellers will invade every dining-room, and the audible whisper of inveterate sightseers will resound under the great dome that is never to be finished in the building. Across the long bridge that spans the brown torrent of the stream, the woodwork of the wine-gardens will be newly painted, and corks will fly from the bottles of that peculiar vintage known as Assmannswein, which causes contortion of visage, and a suspicion that the Kellner has somehow made a mistake and broken into the stock of vinegar. The cuisine of the Three Kings, or the score of lesser hosteries, will be canvassed by old staggers or wondered at by the uninitiated, who stare at the inverted courses and hesitate to help themselves to sweet rice-pudding between the removes of smoked salmon and red veal cutlets; the quay will be heaped with incongruous baggage, and a polyglot murmur will herald the arrival of that damp early steamer which comes groaning up through the morning mists to take passengers to Coblenz, to St. Goar, to Carlsruhe, or even as far as Mainz. There is no pleasanter journey to the reflective and observant cosmopolite than this voyage up the Rhine, and the man or woman who has had the energy to matriculate in Murray, and learn off the fat little German panoramic guide-book by heart, will be able to devote attention at once to the historical, the picturesque, or the social elements that attract observation. For the first few miles—and, indeed, till we reach The Sisters—the river mist may hang so low on the hills that there is time to take stock of our fellow-travellers; but at each landing-stage the passengers increase in number. Priests, Lutheran clergy; peasant girls (with silver arrows through their back hair); heavy German fathers, cheerful, guttural, and with great appetites for the silver-papered sausage extracted from the profundities of a side pocket; a former student of Heidelberg, with the cicatrised scar of a sabre-cut across his forehead; a wedding party waving farewells to somebody amidst the throng on shore; a veritable group of tourists—our countrymen and countrywomen, the latter recognisable by their fresh interest and healthy determination to miss nothing that is chronicled in the familiar volume from which they are inseparable; the elderly Frenchman, carrying on his decrepit flirtations with that rather triste but still pretty woman who is the subject of much whispering amongst mothers and daughters; the flabby Jewish-looking member of the lower Bourse, whose panoramic picture combines with refreshing draughts of Hochheimer to lull him into profound slumber; the "forward" passengers, stunted, bloused journeymen, who seem to smoke as though they sucked nutriment from the pendulous bowls of their big porcelain pipes; the pensive waiter, who looks as though he had become misanthropically mildewy by living in a damp cabin pantry where he grows fungous by deprivation of light; the abrupt, sententious captain; the blandly remonstrative collector of fares; the market women, the vine-dressers, the great aristocratic representatives of small German coteries, who look up at the castles on the hills with an air of hereditary proprietorship—all these are grouped in a picture full of interest; and each may suggest a story that would be worth the hearing. The dinner-bell breaks up the company, and they re-form, like the colours in a kaleidoscope, as they take their places under the awning where the tables are laid. White soup, with pickles, dried herrings, Rhine trout, fresh boiled beef, sauer-kraut, prunes, fritters, and veal in all sorts of shapes—what a wonderful dinner it is. And then that later dinner at the Lily, at St. Goar, who does not remember it? Who that has once been there cannot recall the evening lounge in the balcony; the great urn, and the strange, woody tea; the thrumming of the piano in the private sitting-room, engaged by an English family; the falling of darkness upon the great hill sides and over the solemn river; the sparkle of the moon upon the ripples of the Lurlei; the tooting of the jager's horn to wake the echoes; the pistol-shot that wakes still more distant responses, and is accompanied by suppressed feminine screams, and the sudden support of many arms to alarmed fair ones; the solemn silence in the opposite village of Goarhausen; the queer, short, German beds, with the pudgy *feder-decks*, those square swan's-down bolsters that are meant for counterpanes and always tumble off in the night; the thin linen towels, that seem like the reversions of worn-out sheets; the melancholy reproach in the eyes of the head waiter, who expects to be remembered on his own account after being mentioned in the bill; the breakfast, whereat novices ask for Liebfraumilch, which comes up from the cellar with the label yet damp from the paste that has fastened it to the bottle; the brown honey, and new rolls, and raw ham; the odour of that faint, papery tobacco, which stales so quickly and leaves its perfume in your hair; and then the boat again for another day of vineyard-covered slopes, and castled crags, and rushing water bearing great rafts of timber loaded with a colony of wild woodcutters on their way to the river's mouth. Yes, as Albert Smith used to sing,

"There's nothing half so jolly as a journey up the Rhine, unless, indeed, it be a journey up the Thames; but then, if we waited till we could go up the Thames, we might never get a holiday at all, for it requires no effort, and your true Briton must have a difficulty to overcome, and something to talk about on his return, or half the pleasure of his summer's excursion is lost."

A MARTYR TO PATRIOTISM.—A small farmer, residing in the hamlet of Villebeau (Seine-et-Oise), has, in a fit of mental aberration, deprived himself of sight, that he might no longer be a witness of the occupation of his country by the Prussians, who had burned down all his property in his presence, a member of his family perishing in the flames. He had often threatened that he would tear out his eyes, and everything that could be thought to be dangerous was kept out of his way. He, however, got hold of a book which described the Chinese method of blinding offenders of high position by placing a small portion of quick lime over the eyes and tying it down with a wet bandage. He procured some lime, applied it in this manner, and destroyed his sight.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S LETTER TO SIR J. BURGOYNE.—*Le Découvert* makes the following comments upon the letter from the Emperor Napoleon to the late Field Marshal Burgoyne, recently published in our columns:—"This letter is remarkable as containing admissions of the most singular, and, we must add, the most ingenuous character. Napoleon III. admits that the Prussians were more quickly prepared than we were, and that they 'surprised us in the very act of formation,' which compelled us to remain upon the defensive, 'the offensive having become impossible.' Thus, the Imperial Government declared war without being prepared to assume the offensive, and the ex-Emperor regards that as the most natural thing in the world. He adds that the defensive operations he was compelled to have recourse to were hampered by political, that is by dynastic, considerations. 'Having returned to Châlons,' he tells us, 'I wished to lead the last army we had left to Paris, but there again political considerations obliged me to make the more imprudent but less strategical march upon Sedan.' It was, then, at such a moment, by the admission of the Emperor himself, that the regard for his dynasty weighed more in his mind than the interests of France. Such a deduction is really astounding. But the close of the letter is more remarkable. 'I feel bound,' says the ex-Emperor, 'to give you these explanations because I desire to retain your esteem.' Thus, to preserve the esteem of General Burgoyne, Napoleon III. could find no better method than to confide to him the knowledge that he had engaged in a war without knowing whether he was prepared, and that at the moment of danger his first thought was the salvation of his dynasty. The absence of moral sense is evident in this, as is also a weakening of the brain. There are, too, many other things which cannot otherwise be explained—for instance, those incessant recriminations against men who, notwithstanding the official oath, have deserted the Bonapartist cause; recriminations singularly out of place in the mouth of the author of the *coup d'état* of December."

STORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL.

Geneva, Oct. 11.

The flag was up—the blood-red flag—the flag of Schwyz, but with the grand omission of the Cross. The instinct of the Geneva middle class was right. The Swiss flag without the Geneva democracy without religion, was a sign of fear, and as Le Petit steamed away into Lake Leman towards the Savoyard Cévennes—a French boat bound for a French harbour—there is little wonder that the gentry of the Rue des Granges, the merchants of the Quai des Bergues, and the tradesmen of the Place du Rhône, would have cursed the foreign vessel with its foreign freight and foreign flag. The Red Republic! Yes, it was the Red Republic, and a good deal more.

The French police were watching the affair with all the fuss and trouble which had marked their work for twenty years. M. de la Ville had no orders. Men of the Imperial family were known to look on these reformers of society with favour, and the Emperor was more and more inclined to lean on them against the middle class. M. Rouher kept his counsel. The society was fighting for him and his master in a hundred ways: not only by aiding the Liberal votes of Paris and by separating class from class, but by withdrawing men's attention from the Empire to the workroom, from the Minister to the master, from the question of a dynasty to that of a nine-hours' bill. M. Tolain, though he had not done such service, had divided the great party of the revolution into hostile camps; the camp of revolutionary Socialists and the camp of revolutionary politicians. He had weakened Blanqui's influence in the streets. He had loosened Favre's interest in the clubs. He had caused the deputies of Paris trouble, and had opened an attack upon the Irreconcilables, as a set of old fogies who could not understand the times in which they lived. Not only in the workshops but in the press they fought his battles. Chief among the Liberal papers was the *Siecle*; a journal of the middle class, of pure Republican opinions, and, until the *Temps* divided its authority, the most thoughtful organ of the commonwealth in France. This journal, which was hated by Imperialists for its ability and moderation, was denounced by the International Association as the foremost enemy of the working class. All means were taken to decrease its sale. No cabaret, no brasserie, no restaurant used by working men was suffered to take it in, and both Paris and the provinces the keepers of all houses of public entertainment received a warning not to touch the unclean thing.

The Garibaldi incident in the Route du Chêne was highly regarded at the Tuilleries, for Garibaldi was the demigod of working men in France, and here a body representing labour had made what seemed a common cause with the Imperialists against the man of Aspromonte. That refusal of M. Tolain to invite the General to Genoa may have had some influence in deciding France to crush him at Mentana when he marched on Rome. M. Boitelle, left without instructions from his masters, took a singular and dangerous course. Not daring to arrest M. Tolain and the delegates from the Rue des Gravilliers, lest some purpose of the palace should be crossed, yet anxious to see good evidence of what the Congress had been doing at Genoa, he gave orders to arrest the foreign members as they passed through France. These members were arrested and their papers seized. Unluckily for M. Boitelle, two of these men, Oude and Cremer, were of English birth, and, English like, they made an awful row about this insult to their country and their flag. Lord Cowley took the matter up; the men were soon at liberty; but their papers were detained by the police, and months elapsed before the delegates received them back. Napoleon was in deep distress, for Königgrätz had placed a rival in the field, whose growth he could not brook, and yet whose power he dared not brave. He wished to please Lord Cowley and to win the working men of Paris. So M. Rouher yielded up the documents to Odeier, and requested Bourdon, as the man whose signature he first put on the Paris memoir, to honour him with a call at the Ministry of the Interior.

M. Bourdon, an engraver, from a meeting in the Rue des Gravilliers, had been sent to Geneva, like the others, with the sum of £20f. in his pocket for expenses. He had travelled in a slow train, in a third-class wagon; he had lived in a cheap lodging, fed on humble fare; he was no speaker, writer, soldier—nothing but a engraver; and so, his trip to Switzerland, with the pure accident of his having been the first to sign the memoir, had conducted him to the cabinet of an all-powerful Minister—sous-lieutenant of the clubbists called him—for a conference on equal terms as Power with Power.

"You wish," M. Rouher said, "to circulate in France the memoir which you read in Geneva?"

"Yes; it is refused admittance at the frontier."

The memoir lay on the Minister's desk. It had been closely examined, and some few notes were visible on the margin.

"Let us look at this together. Here is an expression to be stoned; here is an opening for some words to be inserted. I will make some alteration in the forms."

M. Bourdon seized his chance of telling the great Minister what he thought on several things—the rights of labour, the abuse of capital, the sterility of middle-class ideas, the necessity for social classes, the absurdity of wages, and the like; in fact, the general principles on which the International was based. M. Rouher listened with benignant smiles. To these announcements he had no objections to suggest. He could not say they had no right to maintain such views, and put them forward in the press whenever they could do so lawfully. His observations only touched the point of form.

"How can we change the form and not the sense? We put our thoughts in words, the nearest that occur to us, and we should find it difficult to repeat our thoughts in any other words."

"If that is so," the Minister replied, "you force me to maintain the interdiction. Let us see if we can understand each other. You desire to circulate this memoir—could you not insert some words of thanks to the Emperor, who has done so much for the working classes?"

The engraver told the Minister that the International was not a political body, with the right to either flatter or abuse great persons and great parties; that it was only a society to study general problems; that it published the results of study, leaving every one to act according to his wants. M. Rouher shook his head. The Emperor must be recognised and thanked for services to the working men; if not, the memoir should not circulate in France.

Bourdon retired to tell his friends in the Rue des Gravilliers the news of Rouher's favour. Tolain could not make the change; and so the memoir, free to pass in Brussels and Geneva, was condemned in Paris and Lyons to appear as a clandestine piece.

While Bourdon was parleying with the Imperial Minister Tolain and Fribourg were forming the Paris bureau, which they organised with all the logical prescience and authority of a Jacobin club. Their code consisted of eighteen articles—note four or five of them as signs:—Art. 1. To be admitted as a member a man must prove his quality of artisan. Art. 5. The subscription is fixed at two sous a week. Art. 11. No credit shall be given to a member in arrear with his subscription. Art. 15. The committee of administration fifteen in number, chosen by direct suffrage for three years, shall choose their correspondents, cashiers, and archivists. Art. 18. Any false statement of name, age, residence, and trade shall exclude a man; also any arrear of subscription; also any tendency to the principles of the association. When the bureau was formed Tolain, Fribourg, and Varlin (bookbinder) were appointed correspondents; Heligon (a wall-paper printer) was named cashier. Chernali (an architect) was made secretary-general, and Bourdon took charge of the books and papers of the Paris branch.

Doubts arose in Paris on the principles laid down in the Route du Chêne. As usual, there was much exaggeration in the matter. Papers like *La Presse* denounced the International to public justice, and a writer in *La Liberté* declared in answer that the young society was a power. Already, while the association only numbered

some few hundreds—some of them in arrear of pence—these journals counted their adherents by the million, and imagined that they had the banks of London, Amsterdam, and Paris at their back. The Blanquists followed them with calumnies, for Blanqui could not understand a working-class society that was not bent on barricades. The prudence of the Bureau was mistaken by the revolutionary parties for subservience to the ruling powers. In truth, the principles of the society were such as tended to preserve the public peace. But little favour was, at first, exhibited to men on strike. The working men were told to look for nobler changes than a rise in wages and a diminution in the hours of work—a transformation of the rights of labour and a full redemption of the working man! These phrases helped to keep the Paris masons at their trade, a service of immense importance to the Emperor and his officers at the Hôtel de Ville. This strike of the bronziere was conducted, on the whole, with so much moderation, and such perfect success against the patrons, that the Prefect of Police invited the delegates to come and see him in his cabinet, where he received them with politeness and congratulated them on the dignity and firmness they had shown in the affair.

Some incidents occurred, of which the Prefect of Paris had, no doubt, a full report. To give the strike an air of being supported by all the world, the bronziere sent three members of their body—Tolain, Kin, and Camelinat—to London, in company of M. Tolain and M. Fribourg, founders of the International, as vouchers and introducers of the delegation to their English brothers. These workers were to ask for a support in England, which was not expected to be material so much as moral. They were well received in the public-houses where the London workmen meet; they got no end of promises; but, as the founders of the International reported, they got little else. The English workmen had no money to bestow; and yet this visit to the Thames had some results to show. The patrons of Paris heard of it and got alarmed, for a mysterious dread of what the London trades could do by way of raising funds had run through Paris, and the press gave wings to any fiction on that subject, if the details were astounding and absurd. A trades union was supposed to have unlimited credit with the London banks.

The manufacturers of Paris were divided as to what was best for them to do. Some patrons wished to hear terms; the Government was anxious for the strike to end. The timid masters called a meeting of their body, at Menilmontant, to compare opinions on the strike and see if an arrangement could be made. While this assembly was in progress, some declaring for a compromise with the men and some against it, letters came by post from London, which were opened in full sitting and before the public gaze. A number of bank-notes fell out, each note for 1000f.—a perfect shower of wealth, sent over from the English unions as an earnest of their sympathy, a pledge of their support. This opportune arrival turned the tide. "The Bank of England stands behind them," cried the masters; "let us hasten to make terms before our trade and capital are gone." Then terms were made, the masters ceding what the bronziere asked in fewer hours of work and higher wage; and the then Prefect sent for Tolain and his fellows to congratulate them on the way in which they played and won their game.

In those days there was nothing an Imperial Prefect feared so much as strikes; for strikes not only interfered with public order, but compelled the officers of State to take a side. To take a side was loss of strength; and hitherto the Government had played to both extremes of French opinion; here defending order, saving society, protecting moral interests; there coqueting with the revolution, professing sympathy for the proletariat and practising Socialism on the largest scale, by squandering, in the interests of labour mainly, hundreds of millions on unproductive works—cathedrals, casernes, prefectures, and palaces of justice. But a strike compelled the Government to take a side, to compromise itself with one opinion, and therefore it feared and hated strikes. A man who could prevent a strike was worth a regiment of Guards.

The International repaid the Prefect for his enthusiasm. Within a week or so of the Prefect's triumph the tailors of the fashionable quarter struck, and came to ask the Rue des Gravilliers for assistance. Tolain would not hear them; strikes were not his means of action; they were English, practical, and compromising; while his notion was to await for grander transformations of the social state. These fashionable tailors, observing the fine people of the Maison Dorée and the Jockey Club, showed no fraternal sympathy with the slop-men of the Rue du Temple, who were toiling night and day for crusts of bread. Nor were these tailors on Tolain's books, and no cards of membership had been secured by them; no weekly payments of two sous had been sent in by them; no member of the International had been invited to their managing committee; and, in fact, the scenic business of the latter and the shower of bank-notes could not be repeated once a week. The snips were left to fight alone, and, having neither brains nor cash, they soon gave way. As Fribourg said, "they failed for lack of material resources and moral support." No doubt, each man returned to the companionship of his goose a wiser and a thinner man. The Prefect joyfully reported that the strike was at an end.

A more important service to the Government was rendered by M. Tolain and his fellow-correspondents in the strike at Roubaix, where the weavers smashed the looms, set mills on fire, and injured those who would not join them in their evil work. The cause of this disturbance of the peace was an improvement in the looms, which gave the owners better work from fewer hands, together with some rule or rules not palatable to the working class. Unfortunately, the masters sent for the police, who, acting with provincial rigour, roused the evil passions of the men. They struck their work; they fought with the police; they smashed the looms; they fired the factories; they set upon and wounded all who would not help them. They appeared to have been studying in the school of Sheffield. Many were arrested; Lille was full of soldiers, prisoners, and police; the frontier was disturbed along the line; and Government was deeply moved by an event which, to take what course it might, would bring it loss of popularity and power. The International came forward to condemn the movement in express and general terms. A proclamation issued from the Rue des Gravilliers, in which are found these words:—

"The International Association calls the attention of working men in every country to the fact that the employment of machinery in manufactures raises an economical problem which should be studied at once. We working men recognise the right of working men to an increase of wages when a new machine enables them to produce more." No great harm in such an abstract proposition, prefects of police would think. Then came the pith and marrow of this proclamation:—"Workmen of Roubaix, whatever just cause of complaint you may have, nothing can justify the acts of which you have been guilty. Believe me, the machine, the instrument of production, should be sacred in your eyes. Believe me, acts of violence compromise your cause, and that of every artisan. Believe me, you are supplying arms to all the enemies of liberty and all the calumniators of working men." This sharp rebuke was signed by Tolain, Fribourg, and Varlin, "on behalf of the Parisian commission." It was worth an army in the north.

Of course all these civilities and services between the Government and the International roused once more the cry of Bonaparte, of Prince Napoleon's agents, and supplies of money from some secret fund. No one believed that the bank-notes showered upon the Menilmontant meeting came from London, or at least from English working men. Where look for the true source of these supplies? "The Palais Royal!" cried the Blanquists. "Creatures of Plon-Pon! Traitors to the people! Down with them!"

A curious scene occurred in London on a rainy day in March (1857), of which the Prefect of Police no doubt had full accounts. That he should forward every detail to the Tuilleries was not the less his duty than his pleasure.

One of those exiles of December '51, who used to sup with Monsieur Jacques, in Percy-street, a Capitaine François Clovis

Hémont, died in his poor lodging, and his friends in misfortune wished to honour his remains with an interment such as one may witness every day in l'Île-de-France. As Félix Pyat, one of the most eminent revolutionary leaders, was in London, they invited him to meet them at the grave and sing the customary praises of the dead. Pyat refused this sacred office. He was tired; the matter was unsettled; and this sort of thing was rather overdone. He would not come. When Tolain, Fribourg, and the three bronziere heard that their old comrade was to be buried next day in his foreign grave, their hearts warmed up with the old revolutionary fire. They sent to say they would attend not only in their persons, but as deputations from the Paris trades. When Pyat heard this news, he changed his mind, prepared a revolutionary speech, and met the five Parisian representatives at the captain's grave. A shower of rain was falling on the cortège; but the revolutionary leader took his stand beside the open grave and, in a fiery speech, exhorted all those present to follow in the footsteps of their dead brother—hating tyrants, loving human nature, and contending with despots to the last. Then, fixing his eyes on Valdun, Camelinat, and Kin (the three bronziere), and on Tolain and Fribourg (founders of the International), he explained the great mission which had been reserved for them. He spoke of the late congress in Geneva; of the social contract written by Rousseau; and of the land which owed her freedom to the peasant and the working man, contrasting what they had seen in Switzerland with what they found in France. "My fellow-citizens! my fellow-patriots!" he exclaimed, "the cap of Gessler crowns the edifice! I shall rest in peace, even on a foreign soil, if, with the book of Jean Jacques Rousseau, you have brought back with you to France the bolt of William Tell." The exiles raised a shout, "Long live the Republic!" to which M. Pyat answered, "Yes, long live the Republic!" Tolain glanced at Fribourg in the drenching rain. They glanced at their companions of the bronze works; and they left the cemetery, saying to each other, "If the Citizen Félix Pyat really believes so strongly in the virtues of a poniard, why does he not go and do the deed himself?" Correspondent of the "Standard."

WORKING MEN AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

The Working Men's Committee for Promoting the Separation of Church and State have issued the following address to the working classes of Great Britain:—

Fellow-Workmen.—The Working Men's Committee has been formed in consequence of a prevalent impression that the time is come when the question of separation of Church and State must be referred to the final judgment of the people. In the Session of Parliament just closed it was submitted by Mr. Mailly to the opinion of the House of Commons. In doing this he had no expectation of immediate success. As, however, an Act of Parliament had separated the Church from the State in Ireland, he felt himself warranted in asking the Legislature to apply the principle of that measure to the rest of the United Kingdom. It was met by the objection that the case of Ireland was peculiar—which, indeed, it was circumstantially, but not substantially. Nevertheless, the Government which had undertaken the disendowment and disestablishment of the State Church in Ireland did not oppose the motion upon its merits, but attempted to show that the question was not yet ripe for legislative action. Mr. Gladstone closed his speech by suggesting to Mr. Mailly that he must first convince the majority of the people of the wisdom and the justice of his policy before expecting Parliament to adopt it.

This unequivocal challenge of the Premier has been accepted; and the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control has determined to appeal to the people for an expression of opinion on the subject. The working men of Great Britain have never yet, as a body, pronounced any judgment on this great question; but it has been felt that, after the broad challenge thrown down by the Premier, they can no longer, with respect either to him or to themselves, refrain from a declaration of their honest and deliberate sentiments. From Mr. Mailly and the great party that he has formed in the country Mr. Gladstone, as leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons, and also as First Minister of the Crown, has, in set terms, appealed to the people. It behoves the working men, therefore, to answer that appeal; and that not simply upon the purely numerical ground suggested by Mr. Gladstone as to whether, among the adult male population of this island, the majority are in favour of, or against, the disendowment and disestablishment of the State Church in Britain as in Ireland; but also, and perhaps especially, with a view to the return of pledged candidates at the next general election, whenever that may take place. The House of Commons, as now constituted, does not embody a faithful and complete representation of the whole people; and, without taking a poll of the whole population, the only means of answering the challenge of the Premier consists in the election of a House of Commons each member of which has been returned with a special view to his avowed opinion on this great question thus gravely put to the issue.

These, then, are the circumstances under which the Working Men's Committee for Promoting the Separation of Church and State has been formed and now proceeds to work.

The views of this committee may be thus concisely stated:—

1. They regard matters of religion as belonging to the domain of conscience, in which everything must be left between man and his Maker.

2. They are of opinion that, since the State Church in one part of the United Kingdom has been disestablished, it is both unjust and inconsistent not to deal in a similar manner with the State Churches of the other parts of the United Kingdom.

3. They are persuaded, from observation and experience, that the State Church has utterly failed to accomplish the task for which it was established; and are also convinced that its existence as such is a fatal hindrance to the attainment of those objects which Churches of any kind profess to keep in view.

4. The State Church of England has failed as manifestly as the State Church in Ireland; the only difference being that, while the bulk of the Irish people were Roman Catholics, in contradistinction to the avowed Protestantism of the then State Church, the great majority of the British people are either members of the different Protestant Nonconformist Churches, or of the Church of Rome, or are willing to remain of no Church, rather than attach themselves to the Establishment.

5. The immense revenues of the English and Scottish Establishments (so vast as to amount capitalised to thirty or forty millions sterling) alone constitute a great argument against their continuance; because those revenues, though the common property of the whole nation, are distributed among the religious teachers of half, or less than half, of the people. Enormous and disproportionate salaries and emoluments are paid to Bishops and other dignitaries, while, of that portion of the fund which is received by the parochial clergy, by far the largest part falls to those who have the fewest parishioners, and the smallest to such a minister among the densest populations.

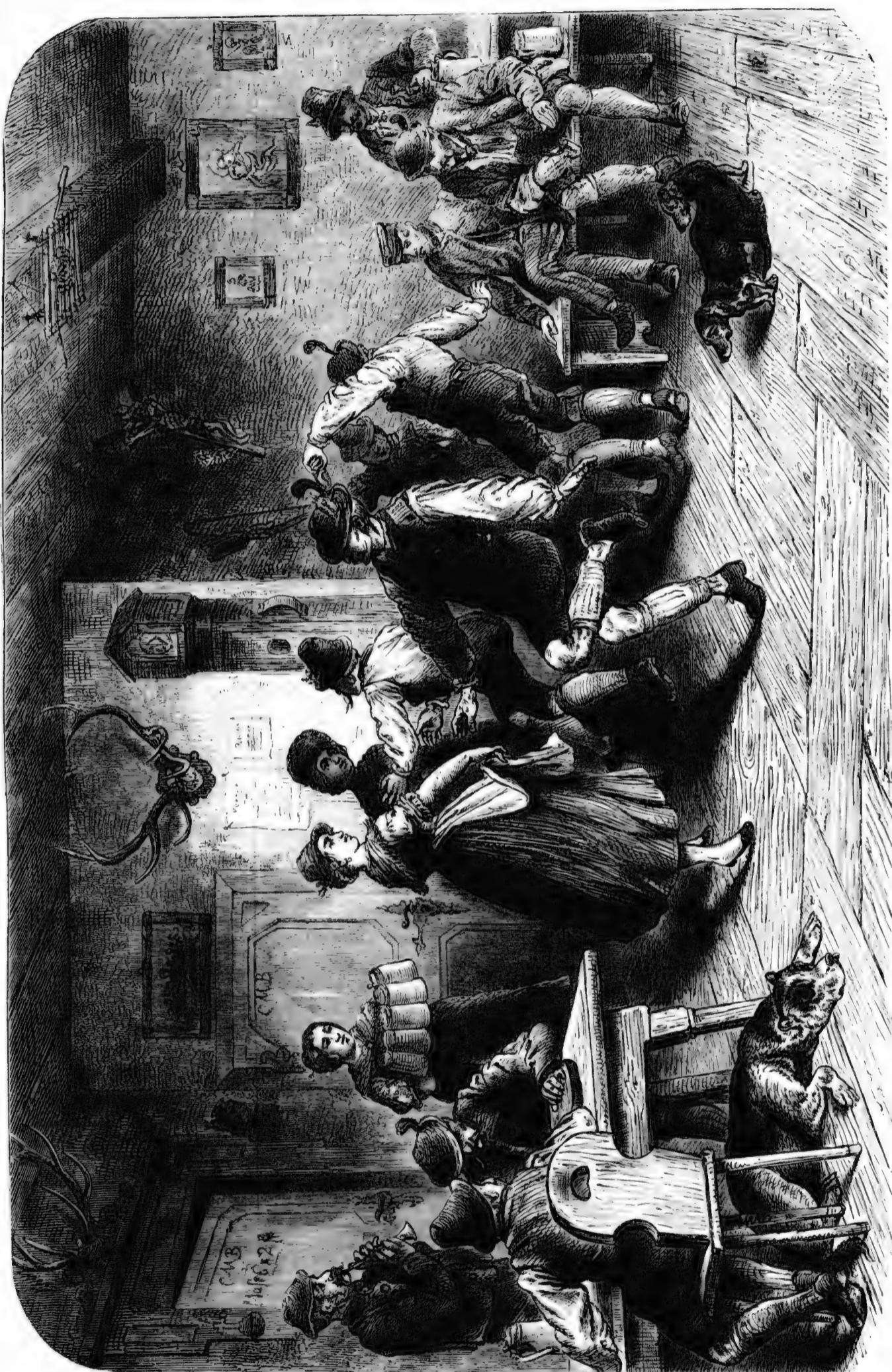
6. The obstructiveness of the Establishment is an additional reason for abolishing it. Its Bishops and clergy are neither appointed nor controlled by, nor are they responsible to, the people; lesions of their own privileges, they resist all changes which may effect their own ascendancy or that of the Establishment in which they have so strong a vested interest. Hence, in every agitation of a political or social character, they are always on one side and the people on the other.

7. The Establishment is a source of national weakness, because it divides the nation in two hostile parties. It prevents good men uniting, as they otherwise might unite, in works of philanthropy and in movements for social reform. It thus carries a mischievous sectarianism into almost all the affairs of life.

Such are the questions which the committee of working men commend to the serious consideration of their fellow-workmen throughout the country. In order to ascertain and give effect to their views, branch committees will be formed and meetings held in all the large towns. It is hoped and believed that the practical result will be that, after this great question has been submitted to the electors, when it is next debated in the House of Commons Mr. Mailly will be in a position to give to Mr. Gladstone's challenge a satisfactory and decisive answer.

THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION report that the net profit during the half year ending Aug. 31 was £7110. The number of shares then in force was 2801, and the stock in hand was valued at £68,384.

TERrible BALLOON ACCIDENT.—A horrible accident occurred at a balloon ascent in Indiana, U.S., on Sept. 30. At Paoli, where there was an agricultural exhibition, Professor Wilbur, an aeronaut, made arrangements for an ascent on that day, and was to have been accompanied by Mr. Knapp, the editor of the local paper. Just as they were climbing into the basket the cords gave way, and they only succeeded in grasping the ropes as the balloon rose. Knapp almost immediately let go, and fell thirty feet to the ground, without serious injury. Wilbur, however, held on and attempted to climb into the basket. This, however, he was unable to do, and the balloon shot rapidly upward with him hanging below. Hundreds of spectators gazed upon the receding balloon with horror; and when it had reached the height of about a mile Wilbur let go, and fell to the earth. At first he fell feet foremost; then he spread out horizontally, doubled up, turned over, and finally straightened out with his head downward. When he struck the earth he fell upon his head and back, the head being smashed into an undistinguishable mass, and the body fearfully mangled and crushed.



A MERRYMAKING AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN ASIANS.



SCENE IN THE EASTERN ALPS: THE LOFFELSPITZ.

SCENES AND PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN ALPS.

THE LOFFELSPITZ.

OUR readers will doubtless remember that we published last year some Illustrations and descriptions of a few of the most attractive scenes to which Alpine climbers have directed their attention. Under the experienced advice of Mr. John Ball, whose admirable book on the Eastern Alps is most clear in its directions and instructive in its comments, the traveller will do well to penetrate to some of the less known valleys and gorges about the romantic district of Zell.

Starting, say, from Innsbruck, the tourist in the Tyrol has a grand journey before him towards the Zillertal, after he leaves the railway at Jenbach, whence the track turns aside from the main road along the Inn about a mile and three-quarters. Zell may be reached by an omnibus, but after that there is but a rough highway to Wald, suitable only for the clumsy country carts. This is well for the student of human nature who desires to see something of the manners and customs of the people of Zillertal—thorough Tyrolese, with the artistic faculty so strong amongst them that not a few painters and sculptors have come from the valley into the big world. As may be supposed, music and dancing are among the chief amusements here, and the former is of a high class. Unfortunately, drinking is also one of the accompaniments of this frequent merrymaking, and the Zillertallers have the reputation of being incorrigible topers. For about five miles above Zell the valley preserves the same character that marks its lower portion between Strass and Zell. Afterwards its character is completely changed. Three torrents, issuing from as many rugged Alpine glens, meet nearly at the same point. The eastern branch, which originates on the southwest side of the highest peaks of the Richenspitze group, preserves the name of Zillertal; the western branch is the Tuxertal; and the central branch assumes first the name of Zemmtal, and finally, near its head, is called Zamser Grund. The accommodation at Giuzling is rather rough; but it will, perhaps, one day be a great resort for tourists, because of its proximity to the grand peaks and valleys of the Eastern Alps; for Giuzling is the solitary hamlet of the Zemmtal, standing at the confluence of the Flöntenthal. It

has a rough, country inn, better than might be expected in so wild a place. This is the best if not the only available stopping-place for a traveller who would explore the main range of the Zillertal Alps, and guides for the more difficult expeditions are generally to be found. The two excursions most commonly made are the ascent of the Tristenspitze and that of the loftier Gross Sugent—the one rising to the right and the other to the left of the entrance to the Flöntenthal. The latter, which is conspicuous in the view from Zell, commands an extensive prospect, but not equal to that from the Abornspitze, and the ascent is steeper and more troublesome. A more considerable expedition is the ascent of the Löffelspitz, represented in our Engraving, and more commonly called "Löffl-sr." The only practicable way is said to be through the Flöntenthal. The scenery of that glen is so wild and striking that those who do not care to go further are well repaid for the labour of ascending as far as the foot of the glacier. About half way in the ascent of the Flöntenthal is a hut used by the chamois-hunters, where a stranger might pass the night, but it would be necessary to carry covering and food. The surrounding rugged heights produce much game; but the bouquetin, which found here its last refuge in the German Alps, has been extirpated within the last sixty years. The stony path extends as far as the semihütte of the Baumgartener Alp, a place ill-deserving its name, as it stands in the midst of a stony waste, surrounded by rugged rocks and glaciers. Cattle find excellent pasture in the crevices between the scattered blocks. The hut is but a short way from the foot of the Flöntengrund Glacier, which descends to about 5080 ft. To ascend the Löffelspitz it is necessary to cross the lower, gently sloping part of the glacier; when it becomes more crevassed it is expedient to bear to the left, and ascend slopes where sheep are pastured in summer. Here there is an outcrop of a band of serpentine, that stretches along the mountains southeast of the Zemmtal, at a height of from 6000 ft. to 7000 ft. It is accompanied by many rare minerals. On reaching the level of the upper glacier the traveller bears to the right, and commences a long and steep ascent, first over ice, which soon gives place to névé, to attain the crest of the main range between the desired summit and a snowy point projecting between

the Löffelspitz and the Schwarzenstein. The ascent to the former peak lies eastward along the sharp arête, whose southern face of nearly vertical rock looks to the Ahrental, while the north side is a perilously steep ice-slope. The height of the point where the ridge is struck is 10,359 ft., so that the climb along the ridge would not give much trouble if it were not for the necessity of step-cutting. The summit is a plateau of névé, some 12 ft. or 14 ft. square, whence the traveller views a horizon of vast extent.

Another Engraving will show the aspect of a festival among the hardy Zillenthal people, in a rustic inn, such as the tourist must stay at if he should visit this most picturesque land, and where the work of the turnspit dogs is successful in the production of a hearty meal, washed down with beer from mighty flagons.

TROUBLE IN MORMONIA.

The Mormons are again in trouble. From America we learn that Brigham Young, the chief of the Mormon Church, the successor of the Prophet Joe Smith, and till lately the virtual autocrat of the United States Territory of Utah, has been arrested for bigamy, and will be put on his trial. The American people are said to be waking up to the iniquity of the Mormon practices, and to be determined that the morals of Salt Lake City shall no longer be a scandal to the land. A month ago the Chief Justice of the territory charged the grand jury that bigamy was a crime in Utah as well as elsewhere in the United States, and he ordered them if they knew of anyone guilty of this offence to bring indictments against him. The principle of this charge has been maintained with great confidence by American lawyers since the doings at Salt Lake have attracted attention as a moral scandal and a political danger. Monogamy is part and parcel of the law of the United States, derived from the law of England, and it prevails in every territory of the United States until it be abolished by competent authority. No such authority has abolished it in Utah, for the Mormon settlers had not the power to legislate for the Territory. Therefore, bigamy continues to be there a crime by the law, and, as no community can withdraw itself from the law, it follows that when a Mormon goes through

the ceremony of marriage with a second woman he is subject to a prosecution. Some have taken higher ground, and declared monogamy to be an essential condition of civilised society, and its obligations to be eternal and indefeasible; but the more strictly legal view of the matter is insufficient for the practical object. Matters seem now to have come to a crisis. After many threats and some mutual outrages, Gentiles and Mormons are at open war, and the vigour of the attack shows that the former feel their strength. The arrest of Young was preceded by a decision which places the Mormons in the power of their enemies. The Chief Justice not only held that bigamy is a felony, but that to believe in its lawfulness disqualifies a citizen for aiding in the administration of justice. Believers in polygamy have been consequently declared ineligible as jurors. Several Mormon elders were summoned and challenged, a belief in the "Divine right of polygamy," whatever that may be, being the cause stated. The point was argued on both sides, and the challenge sustained. The Mormons may well be alarmed at a decision which precludes them from sitting on the juries which are to try their chief and his leading elders. Young, however, declared his intention to submit to the law as a peaceful American citizen. We now learn that he has been arrested, though suffered, on the plea of illness, to stay in his own house; and that as soon as his health permits he will be brought to trial, as the Government is fully prepared to support the legal tribunal. The Mormons mutter threats of armed resistance; but they have done nothing, and probably will do nothing, towards bearing out this menace. They are apparently either cowed by the vigour and resolution of the Government, which has 500 troops at Salt Lake City, or there is among them an indifference or disgust towards a custom which has always been rather the privilege of the rich and powerful than the common blessing of the saints. Probably both causes combine to produce the present sulky tranquillity. It may be that the Washington Government has rightly divined the time when the new, but yet decaying, heresy could be struck at with the best effect. Those who observe Mormonism closely may, perhaps, be able to perceive that there is an upheaving of opinion against the sensual tyranny of Young and his Elders. The jealousy of men, the humiliation and resentment of women, the destruction of family ties, may co-operate with the reprobation of the world in fomenting discontents in the Mormon community. Had no external influence been exerted, the audacious and energetic chiefs of the church might for years—perhaps for generations—have maintained their powers by recruiting their body with the most able among their followers, bribed by a license similar to their own. But the presence of an irresistible power essentially hostile to the principle of polygamy places a preponderant weight in the other scale. The Government of the United States has always been a spectre in the distance to the owners of the Mormon harems. The Gentile power was very far off; it was very poorly represented in Utah; it was not actively hostile, and might even be thought indifferent; but no one could doubt that when the time came for a struggle the Mormon must be overthrown. Thus, the malcontents have always had their encouragement; and, though the Mormon chiefs exercised for a time almost despotic power, and were not scrupulous in their dealing with opponents, there has been, and there is now more than ever, a party which combats the "peculiar institution" of the Salt Lake.

MUSIC.

MR. MAPLESON intends to open the Royal Italian Opera, on the 30th inst., for a short autumnal season; and we gather from his prospectus that the performances will be of more than average interest. He commands a strong company—that, in point of fact, with which the Drury-Lane season of the present year was carried on—and he has announced a repertory of decided attractiveness. In the latter there is even one absolute novelty—Flotow's "L'Ombrà," a new work which has of late found great favour with Continental audiences. True, "L'Ombrà" was promised in the spring, and never performed; true also that operatic prospectuses need to be taken with a very large grain of salt; but, at any rate, the announcement of "L'Ombrà" will excite a degree, be it ever so small, of pleased expectancy. Other noteworthy features of the coming season are the appearance of Mdlle. Titien in most of her greatest characters; and the assumption by Mdlle. Marie Marimon of such parts as Lucia, in Donizetti's familiar opera, *Dinorah*, in the pastoral of that name, and Astradhammien in "Il Flauto Magico." Among the works already "cast" are "Oberon," "Der Freischütz," "Robert le Diable," "Aana Bolena," "Semiramide," and "Fidelio;" while as the company includes, besides the ladies already named, Madame Trebelli, Mdlle. Colombo, Signor Vizzani, Signor Fancelli, Signor Agnesi, Signor Borella, Signor Antonucci, and Signor Foli, performances of genuine worth may be anticipated. Signor Li Calsi will act as conductor; the band and chorus being those of Her Majesty's Opera.

The fourth season of the Oratorio Concerts begins on Nov. 15, and is to consist of ten performances. As was rumoured would be the case some time ago, the directors have changed their field of action from St. James's Hall, where the orchestral accommodation is limited, to Exeter Hall, where, surely, there is ample room and verge enough. Doing this, they have also increased the number of executants from 350 to 500, and fairly entered the lists as opponents of the Sacred Harmonic Society. If they can stir that more venerable and somewhat lazy institution into a quickened life by the force of example, a double good will arise to art. If, on the other hand, the force of example act in a reverse way, and the Oratorio Concerts grow content to work, year by year, over familiar ground, we shall have sore occasion to regret that their directors ever became tenants of Exeter Hall. It is an ominous symptom that the prospectus just issued does not contain the names of any works but those previously given. Subscribers are promised Bach's "Passion," "The Messiah," "St. Paul," "The Creation," "Jephtha," the "Hymn of Praise," "Judas Macabaeus," the "Stabat Mater," "Israel in Egypt," and "Elijah"—a goodly list, no doubt; but we could have spared one or two of its items for the sake of other good things which are unfairly neglected. The artists engaged to sing at the concerts are Madame Sherrington, Madame de Wilhorst, Miss Wynne, Madame Rudersdorff, Madame Patey, Miss Elton, Mdlle. Drasdi, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Foli, Mr. Lewis Thomas, &c. Mr. Joseph Barnby will retain his place as conductor; and Mr. F. Docker, of All Saints', Margaret-street, will be at the organ.

A third selection of Mendelssohn's works was performed at the Crystal Palace on Saturday last. It included No. 6 of the "Preludes and Fugues" (op. 35), No. 7 of the "Characteristic Pieces" (op. 7), the serenade and rondo for piano and orchestra, and two versions of the "Hebrides" overture, the first being its original and previously unheard form. The solo pieces were played in Herr Pauer's well-known style, but they failed to excite the marked interest of the overture. The alterations made in the latter two years after its composition were strongly apparent; and if, hearing No. 1, listeners failed to see any weakness, that fact brought into yet higher relief the extreme fastidiousness which dictated so many and such material changes. At this concert were played, in addition, Beethoven's first symphony and the late Mr. Cipriani Potter's masterly overture to "Cymbeline." Why was not the latter heard during the venerable composer's lifetime? Mr. Potter was a frequent attendant upon the Saturday Concerts, and it would have given him no slight pleasure to see his own work in the programme. But such neglect only illustrates the fact that a man must die in order to have his value recognised. The songs which relieved the instrumental compositions were sung by Madame Lablache and Mr. Vernon Rigby, but they call for no remark.

Nothing has been heard at the St. James's Theatre during the present week, save repetitions of the hackneyed Italian and English operas already made familiar. For to-night, however, there is promised a stage adaptation of Sir Sterndale Bennett's "May Queen," the success of which, notwithstanding a subject

which gives scope for dramatic effects, must be considered doubtful. This, we presume, is the climax of the "Royal National Opera" season; for, after to-night, the enterprise will be removed to Shoreditch, where, at the Standard Theatre, it may play "Maritana" and "The Rose of Castile" to sympathising audiences. We unfeignedly regret the collapse of a scheme which, however, had no chance from the first, carried on as it was in absolute defiance of the most obvious requisites for success.

The Promenade Concerts came to an end, on Monday last, with an "extra night" for the benefit of Mr. Edward Murray, acting manager. Mr. Vernon Rigby and Mr. Lewis Thomas, with other artists specially engaged, added to the attractions of the evening.

REPORT ON SPIRITUALISM.

ON Jan. 26, 1869, the London Dialectical Society appointed a committee "to investigate the phenomena alleged to be spiritual manifestations, and to report thereon." The committee originally consisted of twenty-eight members of the society; but two of these gentlemen declined to sit, and subsequently eight other gentlemen were invited and agreed to join. This body of thirty-four, being obviously too large to conduct inquiries by personal experiment, was split up into six sub-committees, and these were requested to make such investigations as were possible, and send in their report. This has accordingly been done; and we have here their evidence, along with a mass of correspondence and other communications, all bearing on the subject in hand. The whole forms one of the most curious volumes which have been published for many a day, and furnishes matter for the most interesting study, quite apart from the main topic of spiritualism. We shall, however, merely summarise in a very brief fashion the reports of the six sub-committees. The first of these bodies went to work in a most thorough and business-like manner, and managed to hold no fewer than forty meetings. At thirty-four of these some of the so-called spiritualistic phenomena were observed; and the witnesses report that they have no longer any doubt about the existence of a force which, under certain bodily or mental conditions of one or more persons present, is sufficient to set in motion heavy substances without contact between such substances and the body of any one of those persons. Further, they believe that this force "can cause sounds to proceed, distinctly audible to all present, from solid substances not in contact with, nor having any visible or material connection with, the body of any person present, and which sounds are proved to proceed from such substances by the vibrations which are distinctly felt when they are touched." Finally, they hold that this force is frequently directed by intelligence.

These conclusions are cautiously worded, and scarcely touch upon the topic of communication with spirits, which is abundantly handled in the minutes of the proceedings of this same sub-committee, published in the appendix. Sub-committee No. 2, however, is less vague in its reports. Here we have detailed accounts of all manner of manifestations which were "presumably" spiritualistic. By the simple process of rapping, messages were brought to persons present from departed friends, important revelations made about property, and so forth. The deputies are of opinion that they "presumably established occasional communication with a number of spirits or intelligences, announced to be such by themselves, many of whom stated that they were connected in various degrees of relationship to certain members of our party, for whom they professed a friendly regard;" and "that such presumed spirits displayed distinct individualities, each having a manner peculiar to itself, and rapping delicately, emphatically, or deliberately, as the case might be, expressing, as it were, character, mood, and temper." Sub-committee No. 3 met six times, and the witnesses seem to have been chiefly occupied in watching and testing the tilting of tables. Nevertheless, they had a few messages rapped out; and thus they report that, "besides the evidence thus afforded of the presence of this not generally recognised force, we believe we have had in these experiments evidence of an intelligence directing it, as in moving, by request, in a particular direction, tilting a certain number of times as required, and by tilts or taps spelling out words and sentences addressed to those present." Sub-committee No. 4 remarks, in a rather contemptuous fashion, that "nothing occurred in presence of this sub-committee worth recording." Sub-committee No. 5 seems to have been the most important of these bodies, and forthwith addressed itself to the tackling of Mr. Home. The first séance was held in April, 1869. In addition to the members of committee, there were present two or three persons interested in the matter, among them two noblemen whose names have been much mixed up in the reports of "communications." On this occasion the manifestations were trifling. A week afterwards another séance was held. There were, as before, a few raps, and the table moved slightly; but nothing further. A week later Mr. Home again met the committee, with no result. The fourth séance, which produced only the same trifling phenomena, was the last; for Mr. Home became unwell, and the investigation was not resumed. The report states:—"During the inquiry Mr. Home afforded every facility for examination, and appeared to be anxious to further the object which the committee had in view. It is almost unnecessary to add that nothing occurred at any of the meetings which could be attributed to supernatural causes. The members had fully expected that they would have witnessed some of the alleged extraordinary levitations of Mr. Home, but he explained at the opening of the inquiry that the phenomena produced through his agency were of uncertain manifestation and that he had no power whatever to produce them at will." The last of the sub-committees, No. 6, has to report that nothing occurred except when a lady visitor once brought two children with her, and these, being placed at a small chess-table, proceeded to rock it to and fro, "to their own intense delight and to the amusement of the company. At no other meeting was there even the pretence of any spiritual phenomena."

Now, let us turn to the impression which all this evidence, and the examination of a large number of witnesses, produced on the general committee. They, too, have furnished a report of the conclusions at which they have arrived, which would, perhaps, be of more value had the names of the conscientious gentlemen been added. The following are the propositions:

1. That sounds of a very varied character, apparently proceeding from articles of furniture, the floor and walls of the room—the vibrations accompanying which sounds are often distinctly perceptible to the touch—occur without being produced by muscular action or mechanical contrivance.
2. That movements of heavy bodies take place without mechanical contrivance of any kind or adequate exertion of muscular force by the persons present, and frequently without contact or connection with any person.
3. That these sounds and movements often occur at the times and in the manner asked for by persons present, and, by means of a simple code of signals, answer questions and spell out coherent communications.
4. That the answers and communications thus obtained are for the most part of a commonplace character, but facts are sometimes correctly given which are only known to one of the persons present.
5. That the circumstances under which the phenomena occur are variable, the most prominent fact being that the presence of certain persons seems necessary to their occurrence, and that of others generally adverse; but this difference does not appear to depend upon any belief or disbelief concerning the phenomena.
6. That, nevertheless, the occurrence of the phenomena is not ensured by the presence or absence of such persons respectively.

But immediately after the reports of the sub-committees comes a remarkable statement from the chairman of the general committee, who tells us, not only that his eyes "have been a little opened by some of the manifestations which it has been his duty to witness," but that he feels bound, both on his own part and on account of other dissentients, to record the conviction that "the framing of the report, and the selection, publication, and reviewing of the evidence has practically drifted into the hands of devoted and zealous spiritualists, who are led by skilled and successful writers." This is a serious charge to make; but, on the other hand, we find an editorial note asserting that of the five acting members of the editing sub-committee only one is a spiritualist, whereupon the chairman of the committee replies that he designates as a spiritualist anyone who believes in the genuineness of "mediums"

and of the phenomena which they produce. All that we need say on this matter is that the "editing sub-committee," whether they are believers or unbelievers, have not endeavoured to suppress certain letters from eminent men which speak very frankly. We have Mr. G. H. Lewis writing that "in my experience, and it has been large, the means [of producing the so-called spiritualistic phenomena] have always proved to be either deliberate imposture aided by the unconscious assistance of spectators, or the well-known effects of expectant attention;" while Professor Huxley sends the following answer to an invitation:

Sir.—I regret that I am unable to accept the invitation of the council of the Dialectical Society to co-operate with a committee for the investigation of "Spiritualism;" and for two reasons. In the first place, I have no time for such an inquiry, which would involve much trouble and (unless it were unlike all inquiries of that kind I have known) much annoyance. In the second place, I take no interest in the subject. The only case of "Spiritualism" I have had an opportunity of examining into for myself was a gross an imposture as ever came under my notice. But, supposing the phenomena to be genuine, they do not interest me. If anybody would endow me with the faculty of listening to the chatter of old women and Curates in the nearest cathedral to which I should decline the privilege, having better things to do. And if the folk in the spiritual world do not talk more wisely and sensibly than their friends report them to do, I put them in the same category. The only good that I can see in a demonstration of the truth of "Spiritualism" is to furnish an additional argument against suicide. Better live a crossing-sweeper than die and be made to talk twaddle by a "medium" hired at a guinea a sçance—I am, Sir, &c.,
Jan. 29, 1869.

T. H. HUXLEY.

On the side of the spiritualists, again, we find no less a man than Mr. A. R. Wallace, who contributes to the volume an able and subtly-argued paper on the laws of evidence and the arguments brought by sceptics against the "mediumistic" phenomena. Altogether, the book, which we have thus hastily glanced over, may be regarded as an important contribution to the literature of a subject which, some day or other, by the very number of its followers, will demand more extended investigation.—*Daily News*.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.

The National Education League commenced its third annual meeting, at Birmingham, on Tuesday. Two years ago it held its constituent assemblies in the same busy borough. We had then no Education Act. The promotion of national education was a work of philanthropy, a labour of love. There was a large gathering, some enthusiasm, and some differences of opinion. Two years have passed. An Education Act is at work, and the League holds its second anniversary and third annual meeting under circumstances in which there is, at least to lookers on, some discouragement. But the meeting this year is far larger than the meeting when all was hope; its tone is more enthusiastic and its unity is absolutely complete. The League has not merely got something to build up, but something to pull down; it has not merely a blind populace to pity, but blind statesmen to denounce, and it takes new vigour from its antagonistic work. The meeting on Tuesday morning was large, representative, and enthusiastic. It was, to use a phrase of one of the Leaguers, more British and less Birmingham. It had not a large show of M.P.s on the platform, but if the M.P.s were absent, the M.P.-makers were present. Mr. Dixon was supported on his right by Sir C. Dilke, and on his left by Mr. Alfred Illingworth. Mr. Miall did not make his appearance till the afternoon meeting. There was a strong show of white neckcloths; and a very considerable intermixure of an element which is not considered to be in much sympathy with ecclesiastics—that of the working men—Mr. Potter and Mr. Howell, of London; and Mr. H. Giles, president of the Birmingham Trades Council; Mr. J. Snowden, of Halifax; and other working-class leaders were present. Mr. Dixon followed the fashion of the British Association and Social Science presidents, and read his speech, which may, therefore be regarded as a careful and deliberate statement of what the League wants and means. The two points which raised most enthusiasm were the declaration that the League "must not relax its labours till every district has a school board and all schools are under public local management;" and the statement that "the forces are now silently gathering which will undermine the strongest Government and overthrow the political fabric of the most time-honoured Churches," if they are not met and reckoned with. Sir Charles Dilke declared, amid enthusiastic cheers, that the Government must confine its whole interference to secular teaching; and expressed his conviction that if the Liberal party breaks up, it will be for the want of ecclesiastical liberalism in a Liberal Government. Mr. Illingworth, M.P., spoke as one of Mr. Forster's constituents, and set the example of attacking his representative, which, to the keen relish of the meeting, other speakers followed. Mr. Colefax, another of Mr. Forster's constituents, who, not being a Dissenter, did not quite relish the Dissenting tone of some of the speeches, gave an account of the election of the school board at Bradford. They all meant it to be a model school board, and it was elected by a generous compromise on purpose that the religious difficulty might be set at rest. All went well till the religious discussion arose, and then quarrels began, and nothing had gone smoothly since.

The great work of Tuesday morning was the resolution for Parliamentary action. This instruction to the president was moved by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the chairman of the executive committee, whom the meeting enthusiastically marked out as a future representative of the League principles in the House of Commons. He described the Act as a bundle of inconsistencies, said that its effect was that a "voluntary school becomes a school which is entirely supported by forced contributions," and declared, amid deafening cheers, that the amendment of the Act is "a sine qua non of the loyalty of the Nonconformists and the League to the Liberal party." A large number of speakers followed in support, and only one against. Professor Kavanagh, of the Irish Roman Catholic University, moved an amendment, which found no seconder. The one characteristic of all the speeches, both at the morning and afternoon meetings, was the attitude taken towards the Liberal party. Mr. Cowen, of Newcastle, evoked the faintest possible applause when he spoke for the Government, and, when he asked whether the meeting were prepared to oppose it, was met with complete silence till he answered "Yes," when the whole meeting broke into cheers. Mr. George Howell and Mr. H. Giles spoke for the working men, and declared that they were more Leaguers than even Liberals. At the afternoon meeting Mr. R. W. Dale said, in the conclusion of a paper on the payment of fees in denominational schools, that the League protest against it might break up the Liberal party; but he added, "when the Liberal party is false to its fundamental principles it is time it was broken up," a statement which roused the enthusiasm of the meeting to its highest pitch. Another feature of the meeting was the perpetual expression of a resolution not to pay the rates where the money was used to pay fees in denominational schools. Mr. Dale and other speakers declared that they would take the spoiling of their goods, and some of them would go to prison; and Mr. J. Charles Cox, of Haslewood, Belper, who read a witty paper on "Blots in the Bill," was greatly cheered for declaring that he, a magistrate of his county, would not pay any such rate. Mr. Cox, in addition to his paper, had an excellent story to tell. The Derby School Board had passed a by-law, by a majority of one, resolving to pay the school fees in the denominational schools. They had, however, attached to this by-law four or five limiting provisos. The Education Board sent back the by-laws with these limiting clauses to the denominational by-law crossed out. Thereupon the Derby Board reconsidered the matter, and at a meeting on Monday resolved to strike out the by-law itself; so that in Derby school fees will not be paid out of the rates to the denominational schools—and the Derby Nonconformists owe this triumph over sectarianism to the excessive anxiety of the Education Department to promote sectarian teaching.

The sittings were resumed on Wednesday, when there was a large attendance, in anticipation of Mr. Miall's address. The hon-

member for Bradford expressed great disappointment at the way in which the new Act was being worked, and insisted that those provisions which tended to give the system of national education a denominational impress must be eliminated, and the money paid for educational purposes by the ratepayers must be under the control of the people. Sir C. W. Dilke, M.P., in the course of a paper upon free education, maintained that the opinions of the League were those of the great towns, but they were not the views of persons in society nor of leading statesmen. Therefore the voice of the populous constituencies plainly conveyed although it had been rendered powerless by the side of "other less legitimate expressions of a less-wise opinion." Amongst the other speakers during the day were Mr. Walter Morrison, M.P., the Rev. R. Craig (a member of the Evangelical Union of Scotland), Professor Nichol (of Glasgow), and Mr. George Potter.

A POSTAL GRIEVANCE AND A SENSIBLE SUGGESTION.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.)

Hants, Oct. 12, 1871.

Sir,—At the close of this year I shall have seven yearly volumes of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, of twenty-two numbers each, by me for historical reference. I am much pleased with the contents; they contain a vast store of knowledge, and the illustrations make the whole very plain to the reader. A writer in the *Hampshire Independent*, a few weeks back, made some very appropriate remarks upon your intelligent correspondent Mr. "Lounger," which I admired with much satisfaction. I learn from the ILLUSTRATED TIMES of the 7th inst. that we have now a "new postal rate," which "renders our postal service the cheapest, as it is the most efficient, in the world." During the seven years of our acquaintance I have not once written to question your addresses to us readers. Maybe that just now with me "circumstances have altered cases;" but I shall endeavour to prove that the word *efficient* is not quite correct in the above paragraph. Three years ago misfortune transferred my residence from London into a retired rural village, bordering upon Woolmer Forest. It is most certainly a healthy portion of Hampshire, and the supply of good food for the body is equal to the demand. But, Sir, the mind requires food also; and in that our supply falls short. The village newsman's parcel is dispatched from London every Friday, but too early for copies of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES. The consequence is, that copies of this journal must come through the postal channel, and, moreover, *each copy* must have a stamp for transmission, which necessitates an extra charge by the newsender to his customer, depreciates the sale, and causes dissatisfaction to all parties, including the wholesale publisher in London who has to post them. I shall ask your assistance to remedy this grievance by inviting the Post Office authorities to allow two, three, or more copies of the same newspaper up to 6 oz., to be transmitted through the postal system, under cover of the halfpenny stamp, which only amounts, in fact, to the present plan of carrying 6 oz., made up of two or three sheets, issued as one copy—say, the *Times* or the *Illustrated London News*. Mr. Monsell's liberality has been very beneficial to the country since he has held the office of Postmaster-General; if he will grant this further trifling boon, as above suggested, trade will be further encouraged by greater facilities, education will be advanced by the distribution of knowledge, and the postal system will then be perfectly efficient, and that without causing but a small extra strain upon the machinery. It will be only isolated rural districts that would take advantage of the postal conveyance; towns and villages would continue to receive their parcels by railway, as formerly. We have no railway station nearer than five miles, while to the nearest town (Alton or Farnham) the distance is some eight miles, which proves our necessity to have the above channel of conveyance opened for the good of our minds. I beg to apologise for taking up so much of your valuable space. Please to excuse an amateur.—I am, Sir, &c., J. J. GILLEM.

THE STOCKWELL TRAGEDY.

INQUEST ON MRS. WATSON.

The inquest into the cause of death in the case of the late Mrs. Watson was resumed on Monday morning, at the Grosvenor Arms, Stockwell, before Mr. Carter, Coroner for West Surrey. Mr. Fraser, solicitor for Mr. Watson, took occasion, previous to the commencement of the proceedings, to complain of a paragraph which had appeared in the *Echo* on the previous Thursday. The paragraph presupposed that a certain line of defence would be adopted, and proceeded to argue that such a defence would be untenable. He thought that such anticipations and arguments were most unjustifiable. The Coroner did not consider it was within his province to take any notice of this article. The first witness examined was Sergeant Edward Hazel, W division of police. On Wednesday, the 12th, he was called to the house, 28, St. Martin's-road. He had Sergeant Huey with him. The first person he met there was Dr. Rugg. He continued: I also saw the deceased woman. She lay in a small bed-room adjoining the library. She was in a corner of the room, near the window, which was in the back part of the room. I noticed injuries and blood about her head. I did not notice any blood about her clothing. A few minutes after I received three letters in envelopes, but not sealed, from Dr. Rugg. I read one. I gave them to Inspector Davis. I marked them, first, with my initials. I then saw Mr. Watson, and told him to consider himself in custody for the murder of his wife. He said, "I suppose so. Don't be violent." I said there would be no violence used, when he turned his head and said, "I'm ill." I searched the house last night. I produced a shirt. I found it, about six o'clock yesterday evening, in the drawers behind his bed-room. The wristbands are cut off. It was amongst his clean shirts. (The shirt was produced. The wristbands had been cut off, but there were still spots of blood on the sleeves). I found nothing else.

Inspector Davis was the next witness. He said: I produced three letters, a key, a bottle containing, as I understand, prussic acid. The letters were marked by the sergeant, and I afterwards marked

them myself. They were numbered 1, 2, 3. No. 1 is addressed to the surgeon; No. 2 was "Statement for such as may care to read it;" No. 3 "For the servant, Ellen Pyne, exclusive of her wages." This contained a £5 note. I know his handwriting, because I saw him write the following memorandum:—"Blankets and sheets, a comb and brush, and some slices of cold beef." (The memorandum to the surgeon was then read by the Coroner, as well as the other two which have already been published.) I then searched the house. I traced what appeared to be blood in the small bed-room adjoining the library. I saw a smear of blood towards the door. It looked as if it had been made by her clothes as she was being dragged along. The smear was dry. The clothes were much saturated with blood. I also saw a patch of blood on the landing outside the door leading towards the library. I raised the carpet of the library, and found a much larger patch, which had evidently penetrated through the carpet. It appeared to have been wiped from the floor, but the carpet was a dark pattern. I went to the front window, and noticed that on the framework of the sash there appeared some smears as if they had been wiped. On examining the wire blind of the window I saw several small spots which appeared to be blood. I then examined a large arm-chair. The covering of the back of this chair, which was leather, was covered with spots and splashes of blood. It looked as if it had dried. Afterwards, in examining the dressing-room at the back of the bed-room where the sergeant had found the shirt, these trousers were handed to me by Dr. Pope, on which there appeared to me to be a great quantity of blood, and a waistcoat the front of which shows stains of the same kind. I afterwards found the coat with a lighter one hanging over it, which likewise shows stains of blood. There is also a pair of drawers upon which there is a stain of blood. On Thursday morning in a small drawer in the same chest with the shirts I found five pistols, three large and two small. The one produced, an old cavalry flint pistol, is all split in the woodwork, one split across, and one lengthways which appears to have been recently done. There is a stain, which appears to be blood, at the guard of the trigger, and also one at the butt-end. I found, too, a new hammer, which had not been used, and a sponge, with some light-coloured hair on it. The sponge was dampish, with a reddish tint over it. I found a small hammer, which was perfectly clean, in his dressing-room. I charged him with the crime at the station. The charge was read to him, but he made no reply.

Dr. Rugg was the next witness examined. Having identified the letter No. 1, also Nos. 2 and 3, he said:—I delivered them to Sergeant Hazel. The inspector was not there. I believe the handwriting is Mr. Watson's. I have received a letter from Mr. Watson, and from my remembrance I believe the handwriting to be his. I have never seen him write. I made a post-mortem examination of the body on Friday last, assisted by Mr. Pope, the divisional surgeon of the police; and Dr. Day Goss, was present also, and took down the notes. We stripped the body. The following is our report:—

Body well nourished. A large contused and lacerated wound of irregular triangular shape upon the posterior superior angle of the right parietal bone. A little in front and to the right of the before-mentioned wound there is a lacerated wound of 2 in. in length extending to the bone. Immediately in front a wound of similar shape, also extending to the bone. To the right of the last described, an irregular triangular contused and lacerated wound 2 in. in length and breadth, causing a fracture of the bone. In front of the last-mentioned wound there were two other lacerated wounds, each of about 1½ in. in length. To the right, at the juncture of the temporal and parietal bones, is a wound of an inch in length, of irregular triangular shape. On the forehead, about 2 in. above the inner angle of the right brow, extending diagonally from the centre of the forehead to an inch above the middle of the eyebrow, an irregular lacerated wound of 2 in. in length. The mouth was closed and drawn to the left side; the lips compressed, and under the lip contused on the right side. Nothing remarkable about the external appearance of the face, except a small contused wound underneath the chin, as if struck by falling. On the right arm were two small wounds over the fleshy part of the arm; a wound also upon the elbow-joint; several contusions upon the hand. On the left arm bruises over the elbow and over the back of the arm, and on the back of the hand a severe contused and partially incised wound (skin wound) of 2 in. in length, and minor ones on the fingers and knuckles. On the back of the neck on the left side a superficial abraded wound of about 2 in. in length, similar to the one on the chin. External appearance of the chest and abdomen—slight abrasion over the right hip, and the general post-mortem appearances showing that decomposition had set in. A slight bruise of the left knee-cap, besides slight abrasions over each shin. No other external marks of violence on the chest or abdomen. Upon the removal of the scalp bones the sutures between the two parietal and also between the parietal and frontal bones were loosened and movable, accompanied with which was an irregular fracture of the frontal bone, extending through both tables; in addition to this the outer table was more extensively fractured than the inner, evidenced upon removal of the skull-cap. Upon the removal of the brain an extensive extravasation of blood was found between its convolutions and at its base. There was also great venous congestion over its surface. There was an extensive fracture of the base of the skull from the anterior inferior angle of the parietal bone to the extent of two inches through the wing of the sphenoid to the temporal bone. Examination of the Thorax—The lungs emphysematous, but old adhesion upon the right lung. The heart small, covered with fat, but the valves healthy. Abdomen.—The liver less than the usual size, hard in structure, cirrhotic. Upon raising the stomach a large amount of extravasation of blood was found at the lesser curvature, from rupture of mesenteric vessels, and between the folds of the peritoneum. The stomach contained about half a pound of partially undigested food. The intestine healthy, but loaded with fat; kidneys small and fleshy, much congealed, especially the left one; the cortical substance firmly adherent.

In answer to Mr. Frazer, witness said that this appearance of the liver would have been produced by the frequent taking of small quantities of alcoholic stimulants. The external injuries of the head had been produced by a blunt instrument, and very great force must have been used. The pistol produced had some small marks of blood on it. It was calculated to inflict the injuries disclosed. He had no doubt but that the injuries inflicted had been done with this pistol, as many of them fitted the butt and the trigger-guard.

Eleanor Mary Pyne examined—I am a single woman. I had lived with Mr. and Mrs. Watson three years next February, at 28, St. Martin's-road. When I first went there had another servant, a woman. I was the only servant since last Christmas. They had two boarders at first, but no one since the school broke up. My master and mistress were at home on Sunday week. Both

went out in the morning together at half past ten. They returned between one and two. My mistress appeared to be in her usual state of health. They took dinner between one and two. I waited on them. They appeared to be comfortable together. I noticed nothing unusual. I removed the dinner things, and they retired to the library, where they generally used to sit. Master was, as always, dressed in black. I did not notice if he wore a frock-coat. It was one similar to what he generally wore. I was allowed to go out once a fortnight, and I went out as usual. I was not sent out. I supposed my master and mistress to be in the library. I returned between eight and nine o'clock. Mr. Watson let me in. Mr. Watson said, "Your mistress has gone out of town, and won't be home until to-morrow." "He had taken no tea, but would take some bread and cheese." I went to bed at ten o'clock. I slept at the top of the house, in the back room. My master was then in the library. There was nothing unusual in his conduct or manner. I did not notice any alteration in his dress. When I got as far as the library Mr. Watson opened his door and spoke to me. He looked at the stain on the floor with a candle in his hand. He said, "This stain on the floor is some port wine your mistress has spilled; I tell you in case you might wonder what it was." I saw master again at breakfast-time next morning. He went out after dinner, and returned about five. I wanted something out of the cupboard down stairs, and I asked if mistress was not at home before dark could I get it. He said she would not be. He took supper and retired as usual. I heard no noise that night. On Tuesday after breakfast he said, "Your mistress won't be home for two or three days." I asked no questions. He went out. In the afternoon he said, "Could I get anyone to remain with me that night, as he would not return till the morning?" I tried and could not get anyone. I told him I might get someone, but was not certain. At half-past nine I told him I had no one. I think he went out once or twice. I stayed up until eleven, thinking Mr. Watson would be going out, when I could fasten the door after him. Mr. Watson called over the stairs at eleven o'clock, "If you should find anything wrong with me in the morning, go for Dr. Rugg." I said, "Are you ill?" He said, "I may require medicine in the morning." I did not see or speak to him again that night. The next morning he went out before breakfast, at a little after eight o'clock. He was out but a short time. He took some breakfast in the dining-room, and went out again. He returned before twelve o'clock. He said, "If you should find me ill before dinner-time, or anything wrong with me, step out for the doctor." He went up stairs. I think I saw him in the library. I shortly after heard a groan. I was rather frightened, and did not know which room I should go to. I found Mr. Watson's bedroom door a little open. I went in. He was in the bed. He was undressed. I spoke to him, but he did not know me. I went for Dr. Rugg. I left a message for him. When he came I gave him one paper with my name on it. I saw two or three papers on the chair, which Dr. Rugg took possession of. The letter produced is Mr. Watson's writing. I did not know that my master possessed firearms. The clothes produced look like the clothes he wore on Sunday. I heard no words between master and mistress before my going out on Sunday. I never heard them quarrel. I never heard threats from either. I never saw him push or strike her. He was always kind to me. I always thought Mr. and Mrs. Watson very kind one to the other.

The Coroner read over the evidence given since the commencement of the inquiry, and briefly called the attention of the jury to the facts, and to the distinctions that were to be taken between murder, manslaughter, and misadventure. He held that the jury had no option but to send the case to trial.

After a short retirement, the jury unanimously returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against John Selby Watson."

The Dublin papers contain the following information with regard to the identity of the late Mrs. Watson. She was Miss Anne Armstrong, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Armstrong, formerly of 16, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin, and Inchicore House. Owing to the failure of French's Bank he lost all his means, and ultimately his daughters were compelled to adopt the profession of governesses. During the Rev. Mr. Watson's time at Trinity College, Dublin, he met with Miss Armstrong, and, after eleven years' courtship, they were married at St. Mark's Church, Dublin. The elder sister, Miss Olivia Emily Armstrong, now seventy years of age, still resides in Dublin.

Mr. Watson was charged before the Lambeth Police Court, on Thursday, with murdering his wife and attempting to commit suicide. Evidence having been adduced, the prisoner was remanded until Wednesday next, in order that an analysis of the contents of the bottle (supposed to be prussic acid) might be made.

THE AGITATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET.

HARTEPOOL.—A private interview between eight representatives of the men at the Middleton Ironworks, Hartlepool, and Mr. Richardson, the head of the firm, took place on Monday morning, the result being that the nine hours was immediately and cheerfully conceded by that gentleman. A mass meeting of the men was held on the town moor in the afternoon to celebrate the event, when it was resolved to present the firm and Mr. Smith, manager, with a complimentary address, and to subscribe one day's pay per man to the Newcastle fund, in consideration of their sacrifices to gain the nine-hours movement. After cheers for the firm, the manager, and the deputation, the men marched in procession through the town, headed by the band.

NORTH OF ENGLAND IRON TRADE.—At an adjourned meeting of the North of England Board of Arbitration, held on Tuesday, an agreement was come to, and a standing committee authorised to carry out the details of a sliding scale agreed upon. The following arrangements were entered into:—The advance of 6d. per ton on puddling, and 5 per cent on other wages, to take effect from Nov. 1, continuing until March 31 next; after that date, wages to be regulated by selling prices of iron, and the rate according to the scale to be arranged on the 1st of January, April, July, and October, each year. No charges to be made of

less than 3d. per ton on puddling iron, and 2½ per cent on other wages. The standard selling price shall be £6 17s. 6d. per ton realised price.

SOUTH WALES.—A meeting of delegates, representing upwards of 40,000 colliers, miners, and ironworkers of South Wales and Monmouthshire, was held at Taverman Bach, village near Rhymney, on Monday. The men had previously decided on making an appeal to their employers for an advance of 10 per cent in the rate of wages, and at the meeting on Monday progress was reported. The replies from some of the masters were of a favourable character, but in other instances the men had been met with a refusal. It was ultimately decided by the meeting that a formal demand for the advance should be made. The delegates expressed the opinion that the time for half measures was passed, and it was unanimously resolved that if the demand were not complied with a general notice should be given. The men have arranged to wait upon their employers for a definite answer on or before Dec. 11.

THE WOOLLEN TRADE.—It was confidently expected that when the woollen manufacturers in the Dewsbury district had announced that the lock-out should terminate last Saturday, and that all claims for higher wages should be dealt with by an arbitration committee of masters and men, with power to date any advance of wages from the dates the factories were reopened, the men on strike would have given way. A section only appears willing to do so, judging by what took place at a mass-meeting held last Saturday night. The Ravensthorpe men were willing to return to work, as were a majority of the Batley finishers, but those of Dewsbury, part of Batley, and Birstall expressed their determination not to give way. Those on strike are receiving support from Leeds and Huddersfield, but the public feeling is against them in the Dewsbury district.

SHEFFIELD.—A general meeting of spring-knife cutters was held on Tuesday night at Sheffield, in order to reorganise their trades union, which had fallen into desuetude during bad trade. The cutters are much dissatisfied with their present wages, and intend, as soon as the state of their funds warrant, to give notice for an advance which will be equivalent to about 5d. per day. The members of the Sheffield police force have resolved to agitate for an increase of pay.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.—The directors of the Great Western Company have reduced the time of the men employed in the locomotive carriage works, to the number of 3000, one hour per week. They now leave work at one o'clock on Saturday, instead of two o'clock, as formerly, making the week's work 57½ hours instead of 58½. A meeting of the engine-drivers, firemen, and brakemen of the southern section of the Caledonian Railway was held, last Saturday evening, at Motherwell. It was reported that the directors would not concede the ten-hours' system, but would modify the trip system. The directors further agreed that the engine-drivers should begin at 27s. a week, rising 1s. annually till 36s. per week was reached; and that firemen should immediately have an advance of 1s. per week, and brakemen should begin at 17s., with an annual rise of 1s. till 20s. was reached. These terms gave great dissatisfaction to the men, and it was resolved that if the directors do not concede the demands of the men they would strike at the end of fourteen days. It is expected that the movement will be general on all the lines. A meeting of 1500 workmen in the employ of the Midland Railway Company was held, on Monday evening, at Derby, to support a petition for the reduction of the working hours from fifty-eight to fifty-four per week. On Tuesday a still larger meeting was held on the works; and, later in the day, the delegates waited on the directors of the company to present the petition. It is expected the directors will give their reply on the 31st inst.

SCOTLAND.—The Edinburgh cabinet and chair makers held a meeting on Friday night, and resolved to request an advance of wages to the extent of 10 per cent, to take effect from the beginning of April next. The shoemakers of Aberdeen struck work on Tuesday for an advance of wages—about 17½ per cent. The men submitted their demands to the employers, who agreed to give half, but this was refused. Meetings are being held over the north, agitating for the same object. One of the largest shipbuilding firms on the Clyde has intimated that, so far as it is concerned, the lock-out of the shipwrights is at an end. This concession applies to workmen at Greenock, who are in no way responsible for the dispute.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCT. 13.

BANKRUPTS.—W. COTTEMAN, Peckham, customs clerk—H. B. HARRISON, Walworth—J. G. LA GUIDARA, Fenchurch-street, merchant—G. MARSHALL, G. S. HENRY, and E. H. VERNON, Cornhill, merchants—J. NADAL, Newman-street, hydraulic engineer—A. MAUGHAM, Stockwell, laundry—J. W. MITTON, Mark-lane, wine merchant—S. SUNDELL, Shore-lane, manufacturer—J. WELLIS, Hackney, tanner—J. ROBERTS, London-road and Stoney-street, Borough Market, potato salesman—F. CHEPHAM, Hackney, grocer—G. BASSETT, Shorne Ridgeway, butcher—E. C. BURTON, Liverpool, milliner—G. CALDON, Salisbury, draper—T. CHAPMAN, Blackpool, innkeeper—R. REEVE, Beccles, butcher—J. NORTHRUP, S. TETLEY, jun., W. H. TETLEY, and G. H. WARD, Thornton, manufacturers—A. SMITH, Bristol, fly proprietor—W. TOMLINSON, Derby—J. C. WARD, Bilton, farmer.

TUESDAY, OCT. 17.

BANKRUPTS.—J. BURMESTER, Great Portland-street—J. MANNING, Kingsland-road, victualler—A. J. MENZIES, Ryder-street, St. James's—R. PRETT, Elizabeth-street, Euston-square, cowkeeper—J. R. ROBERTS, London-road and Stoney-street, Borough Market, potato salesman—F. CHEPHAM, Longton, manufacturer of earthenware—G. D. CLIFFE, Leicester, bootmaker—G. E. and A. J. MERRY, Lexden, millers—D. MILLINGTON, Tipton—F. D. NUFTALL, Nut-grove, near St. Helen's—F. H. PERKINS, Llanelly, coalshipper—P. SHUTTLWORTH, Handsworth, commission agent.

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